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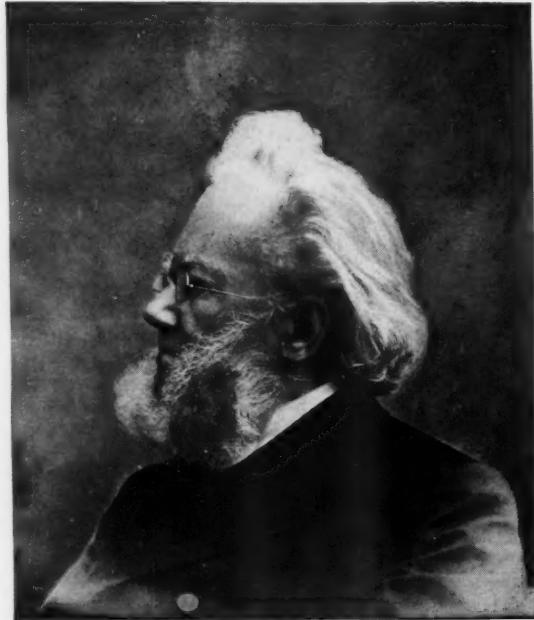


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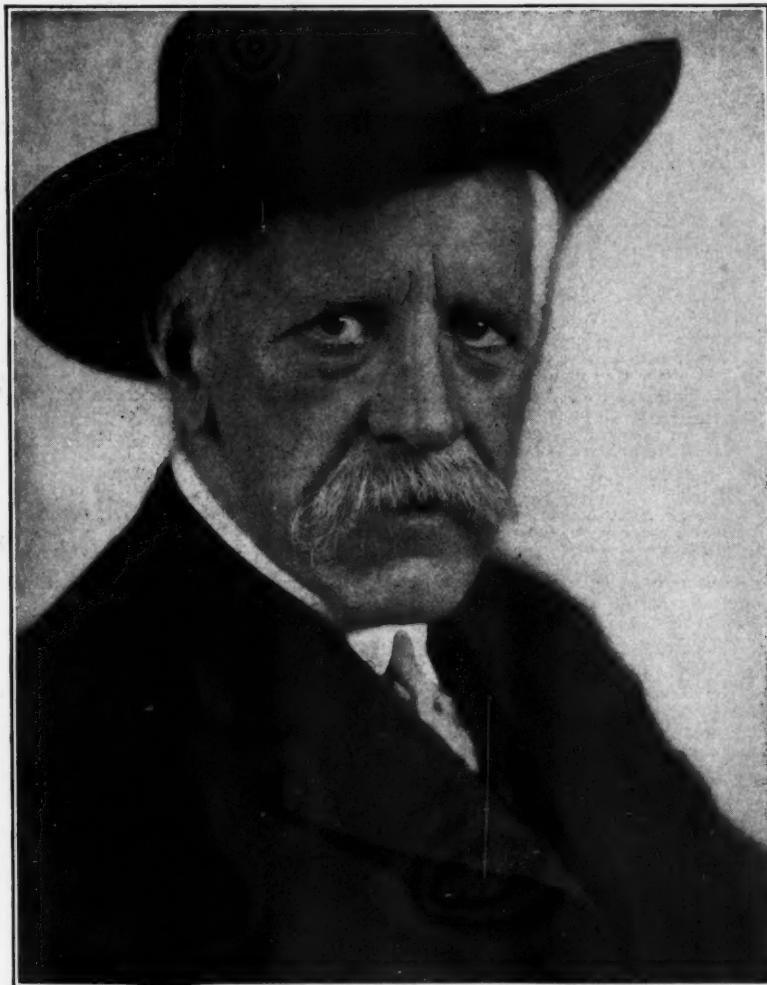
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VOLUME XXI

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FINANCIAL NOTES

COPENHAGEN MUNICIPALITY OBTAINS THIRTY MILLION KRONER LOAN

The municipality of Copenhagen with the consent of the ministry of the interior has obtained a loan of 30,000,000 kroner from a bank syndicate including the National Bank of Denmark, the Privatbank, the Danish Landmansbank, the Copenhagen Handelsbank, and the firm of R. Henriques, Jr. The loan is for five years, and carries an interest rate of 4½ per cent. The purpose of the loan is to cover expenditures for extensive construction work to be carried on by the city of Copenhagen during the early part of 1933. The 60,000,000 kroner State loan, which matured last September, was converted into a two-year issue bearing the same interest rate of 5 per cent.

GUSTAV CASSEL ON THE EFFECT OF GOLD PAYMENTS

In the new edition of Gustav Cassel's *The Crisis in the World's Monetary System*, the eminent Swedish economist has a chapter on "The Nature of the Crisis in America," in which he writes that the payment of gold by Great Britain to the United States ends all hope of an international gold standard system to which he adds that "the course of economic events in the United States is essentially a pure process of deflation, quite distinct from ordinary economic movements; a process which began on a small scale as far back as 1929, and which has afterward developed with such momentum that it is grinding to pieces the entire national economy."

FOREIGN TELEPHONING PROVES A LOSS TO NORWEGIAN TELEGRAPH SERVICE

Telephone conversation between Norway and foreign countries has shown a considerable increase since the departure of Norway from the gold standard, but the country incurred a loss of 200,000 kroner last year due to the fact that the gold franc equivalent was lower in Norway than abroad. The Norwegian Telegraph Service for this reason has increased foreign telephone rates 15 per cent. Foreign calls are mainly with Sweden, Denmark, Great Britain, and Germany.

EXPORT VALUE OF SWEDEN'S ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES SHOWS BIG INCREASE

In the quarterly review published by the Skandinaviska Kreditaktiebolaget of Stockholm, there is an article dealing with the big increase during recent years in the export value of the country's engineering industries. Since the World War the export value rose from 63,000,000 kronor to 239,000,000 kronor, or 15.4 per cent of the total export in 1930. It is also pointed out that the gradual raising of import duties abroad forced a number of the leading Swedish export industries to establish local factories within the customs barriers of the different countries.

UNITED STATES BANKS ON SAFEGUARDING EMPLOYMENT OF THEIR FUNDS

"The inability of American banks to increase their loans and deposits correspondingly," says the *Bulletin* of the National City Bank of New York, "has been due to the scarcity of suitable outlets

for bank funds under the present conditions of depression and uncertainty. Applications for credit by individuals and corporations who can show some promise of being able to meet their obligations at maturity are few and far between. As a rule, such persons and businesses are not wanting money at the present time. There is a keen enough demand from borrowers who are in difficulties of one sort or another, and need money to replace lost capital, but very little of this represents suitable business for a bank whose first obligation lies in safeguarding the funds of its depositors."

VALUE OF DANISH FARM EXPORTS DECREASED 100,000,000 KRONER IN YEAR

At the recent meeting of the Jutland Agricultural Societies held in Aarhus, the chairman reported that there had been a decrease of 100,000,000 kroner in the value of the farm exports during the past year. Butter exports showed a reduction of 5 per cent, while both bacon and cheese increased the quantities sent abroad. The decrease in money received from exports was due to the lower prices that prevailed throughout. The associated societies went on record as demanding a lowering of taxes and easier loan conditions.

ANNUAL REPORT OF NORWEGIAN HYDRO COMPANY SHOWS NET PROFITS OF 420,298 KRONER

The report of the Norwegian Hydro Company for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1932, gives assets of 181,255,288 kroner, including plants and other real estate, 37,448,194 kroner; available cash, 12,721,753 kroner; and securities, 926,112 kroner. The Notodden Works returned a profit of 1,800,835 kroner. The board of directors decided that of the net profits of 420,298 kroner, stockholders were to receive 360,028 kroner, the balance to be brought forward into the 1932-33 account.

SWEDEN AND ROUMANIA SIGN MOST-FAVORED NATION TREATY

The most-favored nation treaty signed between Sweden and Roumania stipulates that the Swedish Tobacco Monopoly shall purchase a certain quantity of Roumanian tobacco, and that Roumania on its part grants Sweden a reduced duty of 20,000 lei per 100 kilos of rubber-sole fabric footwear. The treaty is to remain effective for two years. The most-favored nation treatment applies to citizens, goods, and navigation.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SURVEY ON CREDIT STATUS

According to a survey conducted by the United States Department of Commerce the credit business in 1928, 1929, and 1930 of wholesalers and manufacturers dealing with retailers was generally sound. The study was originally prompted by the National Association of Credit Men and had the cooperation of its 140 affiliated associations, with more than 6,000 wholesalers and manufacturers offering data for the survey. Frederick M. Feicker, director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce at Washington, states in connection with the survey that in some instances profits of concerns were literally being eaten up by the costs involved in carrying overdue accounts.

JULIUS MORITZEN

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Bust in the Marble Garden of the Palace, by an Unknown Artist

THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

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Fredensborg, Castle of Peace

By RICARD PAULLI

EVERY TOURIST who visits Copenhagen will always have as one of the chief items on his program a round trip to the three famous castles of North Sjælland: Frederiksborg, Fredensborg, and Kronborg. While the old Renaissance fortress of Kronborg stands out like a sentinel guarding the entrance to the Öresund, and Christian IV's Frederiksborg, in proud isolation, mirrors its massive red towers in the circumvallating moat, Fredensborg, situated on the road connecting these two castles, embodies an entirely different conception of the kind and nature of a royal dwelling. This castle stands on the southeastern shore of Sjælland's largest lake, Lake Esrom. A glimpse through one of the shady lanes of the park reveals a typical North Sjælland idyl: the lake gleams blue and silver, its western shore garlanded by the magnificent Grib Forest, one of the largest in Denmark, while its northeastern side is encircled by the soft outlines of the hill ranges.

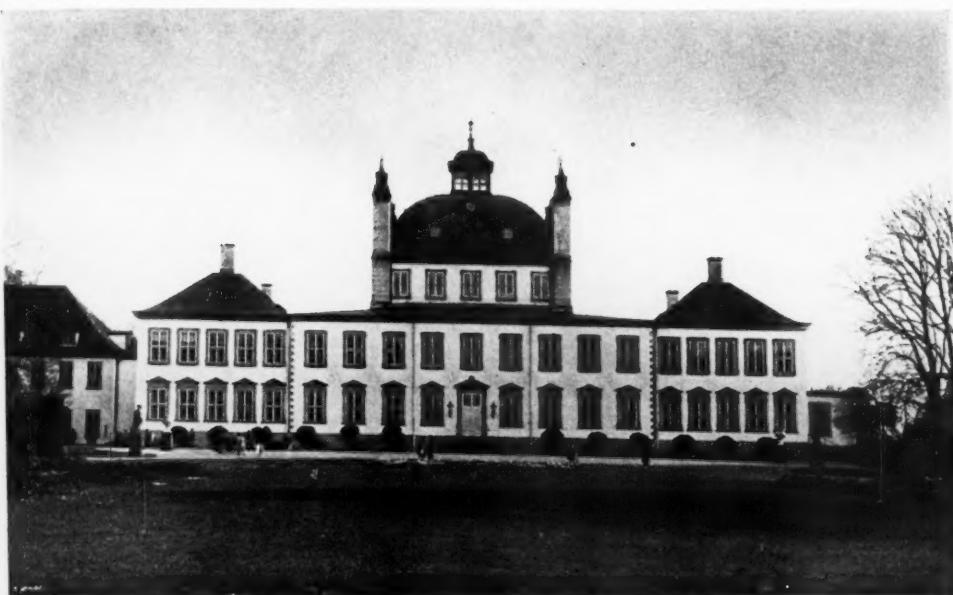
The castle is surrounded on three sides by the large park, the most beautiful one in Denmark. In spite of subsequent alterations, the original pattern upon which it was modeled is still clearly traceable in its design. This prototype is the world-famous park which surrounds the imposing palace of the French *Roi du Soleil*, Louis XIV, at Versailles, the palace which was regarded by all the contemporary monarchs of Europe as the great, desirable model. Characteristic of Fredensborg are the long, centuries-old shady lanes, some of which cut through the park while others run along the margin, and also—another of the points of similarity with Versailles—the broad and spacious clearing



CASTLE STREET, FREDENSBORG
Drawing by H. G. F. Holm, about 1820

which extends out from the garden façade, runs down through the whole park and forms a natural frame for the view from the main staircase of the palace. The park is at its most beautiful in the fall when the foliage is brilliantly colored and the leaves are beginning to sift down from the gigantic linden trees along the avenues. The mood which rests over the castle garden then is the one that is most appropriate. It is at this time of the year, too, that the castle is inhabited, as the King takes up his residence here for a few months. All the rest of the year it stands empty and forsaken so that the tourist who visits Fredensborg can obtain permission to enter the castle and inspect the old interior.

Within, the castle has retained the stamp of the eighteenth century, although many changes have been made since it was first constructed. It was built in the years following 1720, and the name of Fredensborg—castle of peace—commemorates the Peace which was concluded in that year between Denmark-Norway and Sweden after the last great war among the Scandinavian brother nations. The construction of this building was begun by King Frederik IV, and it was completed in its original form by 1724. This form differed in several respects from that which castle and garden present to our eyes today. Much of what we now see did not exist then and much from that time has since disap-



FREDENSBORG FROM THE PARK

peared. Among the latter is King Frederik's menagerie. In those days every great royal pleasure palace had to have its menagerie, and the Fredensborg zoo, which was situated on a little island in the park, contained both wolves and bears and many other animals.

While Fredensborg was Frederik IV's favorite place of residence, the castle had no particular attraction for his son, the pietistic Christian VI. His behavior in the matter of the statues in the park is most noteworthy and characteristic. According to the Versailles pattern, the garden had been adorned by its founder with a series of sculptures, figures from classical mythology, notably a number of Cupids and other "Kinders," as they were called in the language of the day. But their unabashed nakedness was so shocking in the eyes of the King that he ordered a sculptor to take the statues in hand and have everything which might be regarded as indecent or unseemly properly veiled with modest and decorous draperies.

Christian VI's son, the gay Frederik V, merits much more thanks from Fredensborg. In his time the castle was rebuilt and enlarged under the direction of the famous architects Thurah and Eigtved, while the park was remodeled by the French architect Jardin to approximately the form that it has in our day, except that it now has more of an English stamp. The statuary in the garden was also renewed and added to at this time. After Frederik V's death the castle was assigned to his widow, the Dowager Queen Juliane Marie. The enlarge-



SYMBOLIC MONUMENT OF DENMARK, BY J. WIEDEWELT

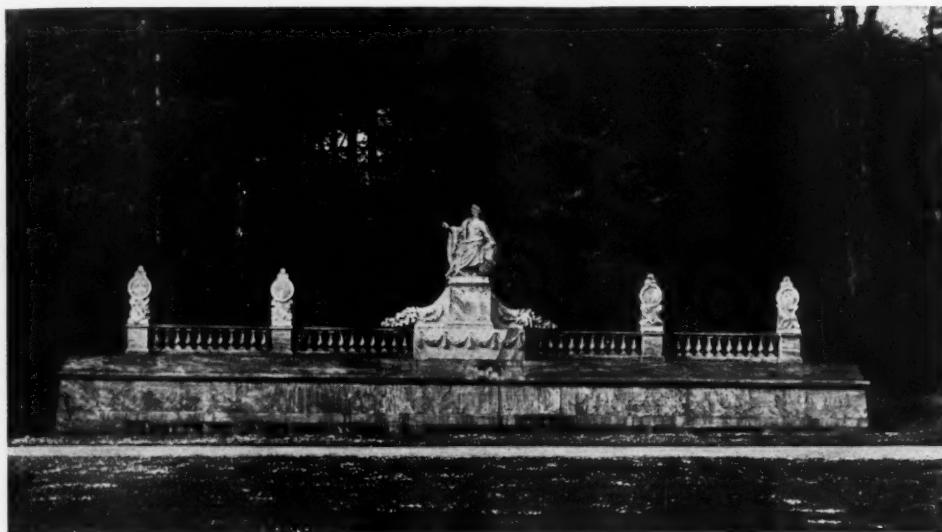
ment of the castle was continued also in her time, and under the excellent architect C. F. Harsdorff achieved its final present form.

Juliane Marie died at Fredensborg in 1796, and the castle's period of decline followed. It stood unoccupied for long intervals, and from time to time its buildings were utilized as social rooms, theater auditorium, poorhouse, and finally as a polling station in the elections for the Folketing. Then it happened in 1859 that Frederiksborg Castle went up in flames. Frederik VII, who had resided there, now chose Fredensborg as his abode. The castle was put in order, and when a few years later Christian IX ascended the throne, a new and glorious era in the history of the old royal castle was ushered in.

Christian IX and his family often lived there the whole summer and far on into the fall, and their family life became, as the years passed by, the object of the attention of all Europe. With a son on the throne of Greece, a daughter married to the Prince of



HEARING



SYMBOLIC MONUMENT OF NORWAY, BY J. WIEDEWELT

Wales, later Edward VII of England, and another daughter married to the Grand Duke Alexander, later Czar of Russia, the old royal couple, "Europe's parents-in-law," became the focus of family feeling among the royalties of Europe. Fredensborg became a favorite summer residence for recreation when the crowned heads wished to withdraw from their representative duties and feel at home as private persons, and the visits of the foreign princes brought a breath from the great world to the peaceful white castle. The retinues of servants alone, Cossacks and Greeks in national costumes, added color to daily life in the castle, in the park, and in the idyllic little borough which in the course of years has grown up around the castle. On the little platform "Kongebroen," which is built from the castle park out into Lake Esrom, tall flagpoles proudly stood, and each of the reigning princes dwelling in the castle was honored by having the flag of his nation hoisted. When Dannebrog, together



TASTE



FAROESE WOMAN IN THE NORWEGIAN DALE

Edward VII, was not such a frequent guest, and his visits were brief. He is credited with having remarked that he knew of only one place in the world more boring than Fredensborg and that was Bernstorff, the other summer residence of the Danish royal couple near Copenhagen. This is the sort of remark that it is not easy to verify, but even if it be true, the then Prince of Wales nevertheless submitted to being immortalized together with all the great princely family—and that, too, in a rather prominent place—in the picture which was painted under the auspices of Queen Louise by L. Tuxen in 1882. This huge canvas, which now hangs in Christiansborg, shows the old King and Queen sitting in the garden room at Fredensborg, surrounded by their children, sons- and daughters-in-

with the flags of England, Russia, and Greece waved on Kongebroen, everybody knew that Fredensborg was having one of its big days.

A peculiar luster was shed upon Fredensborg in this period by the visits of the Czar. More than any of the other relatives, he loved the life here, just for the very reason that this unconstrained existence stood in such strong contrast to all the etiquette and all the many duties which his position as autocrat over the Russians otherwise entailed. So high a value did he set upon the place that he even bought a villa in the neighborhood of the castle, and as a result of this the people of Fredensborg regarded him—above any of the other royal holiday guests—as one of their own.

King Christian's other son-in-law,



MAN FROM HARDANGER IN THE NORWEGIAN DALE



THE NORWEGIAN DALE IN THE CASTLE PARK

law, and other descendants—in all, thirty persons. To look at the picture today is like looking at the personification of a vanished epoch. In the intervening years a large number of the thrones of Europe have sunk into the dust, and Christian IX's family has not been spared during these events. Fredensborg's period of European splendor is irrevocably past, and the place has again sunk back into obscurity.

But quite unaffected by all the political and economic storms that have raged in Europe in this century, Fredensborg lies in its park like an idyl, the fascination of which is as irresistible as ever. Over the castle itself rests an architectonic harmony, which is all the more remarkable in that the construction of the buildings was spread out over several generations. It is to Harsdorff, as has been mentioned, that the credit for this belongs. He would not have been in a position to achieve this fair result, however, had not Frederik IV's old castle, beautifully built in baroque style, preserved withal such a restrained and moderate character. This circumscription of the baroque made it possible for Harsdorff to get his buildings in the more severe classical style to harmonize with the old castle without destroying any of its artistic distinction.



THE ROYAL FAMILY AT FREDENSBORG
From a Painting by L. Tuxen

As one comes up along the road at the end of which the castle rears its white walls and which constitutes the main street—Castle Street—of the little borough of the same name as the castle, one passes through the entrance and the long fore-court into an octagonal courtyard, in the middle of which a statue from the earliest period of the castle is preserved. This statue in the form of a woman symbolizes that same Peace which gave the castle its name. The high copper-roofed dome with the four slender corner towers, which rises up directly in the center of the façade above all the other buildings, forms the ceiling of the most magnificent room of the castle—the dome room. This is one of the highest rooms in any castle in Europe: its lower portion forms a cube of some fifty feet on each side, with a checkerboard floor of black and white marble slabs. The room is crowned with a gallery, and above arches the glorious dome, richly decorated with stucco on a pale blue ground. In comparison with the high, bright, and festive dome room, the effect of the historically celebrated garden room is almost dark and oppressive. The ceiling is, of course, low in relation to the great length of the room and an old ceiling painting in dark colors contributes still further to the impression of lowness.

If one steps out onto the garden staircase one has, besides the beauty of the park, two of the castle's best works of art in which to delight,



FREDENSBORG FROM THE MARBLE GARDEN

namely, the colossal statues, erected in 1766, representing the twin kingdoms of Denmark and Norway. These are the creation of the famous Danish sculptor, Johannes Wiedewelt, who has sounded here the first warning of the revival which antiquity was to experience in the emerging classicism. From Wiedewelt's hand, too, come some of the statues which adorn that part of the garden which lies close up to the west side of the castle within a curious enclosure, the costly little marble garden, laid out in 1763. Around a marble basin amidst trimmed evergreens are grouped symbolic figures, sphinxes, statues, columns, and vases. The walks are laid with flagstones of marble, and the whole is surrounded by a low wall built of the same material. This is one of the most enchanting spots in the great castle garden.

From about the same period as the marble garden comes another highly interesting feature of the castle park—Normandsalen, the Norwegian Dale. This project was begun at the close of Frederik V's life and finally completed by his widow. Normandsalen is a circular-terraced valley, in the center of which stands a tall, beautiful column of Norwegian marble, about which are grouped in two rows sixty-nine life-sized sandstone figures representing Norwegian peasants in national costumes. They are the work of a German sculptor, J. G. Grund, but the models for them were a set of small carved figures or dolls, done by a Norwegian man of the people, the crippled mail-driver, Jörgen

Garnaas. Although they have always enjoyed a certain popularity, there was a tendency at one time to censure these statues very seriously. It must be admitted that from the artistic standpoint they betray sundry imperfections, but they are stamped by a genuine naturalism, which, together with their historical value, makes them extremely interesting. They express the pride of the Oldenborg Kings in their far-flung dominions, in which were to be found peoples who wore so many different and strange costumes. Significant also is the fact that only the Norwegian national costumes are thus perpetuated in stone. The court of that day looked with a much more friendly eye upon the free Norwegian peasant than upon the Danish peasant who at that time was still living oppressed by the yoke of bondage.

Besides the old statues in the castle park, some few monuments have unfortunately been introduced in more recent times. Through a defective sense for the peculiar character of the garden it has in our day been disfigured by busts of inferior artistic quality. These ruin the general effect and disturb the characteristic impression of a rare collection of garden statuary from the eighteenth century.

In the course of time, a little town has grown up at the foot of the castle. In the nineteenth century this town gradually became the seat of a whole little colony of artists, some of whom had only their summer homes here, while others lived here all the year round. Most of the fine arts were represented. The most famous poet that Fredensborg has housed was the author of *Adam Homo*, Frederik Paludan Müller. Here, as in his Copenhagen abode, this unusually handsome and stately man was isolated, thanks to the surveillance of his little, faded, jealous spouse, from all other human beings, men as well as women. Of the artists of the stage we may mention especially the first man in the Danish Ballet in the nineteenth century, the ballet master at the Royal Theater in Copenhagen, August Bournonville, and Olaf Poulsen, one of the most distinguished comedians that Denmark has produced. Since his death Olaf Poulsen's house has been turned into free living quarters for an old actor.

Olaf Poulsen was one of those people who loved Fredensborg with a fervent and fanatical love. Similar feelings possess many others who have their home in the little castle town. And it is not so strange: for the place cannot but exercise a charm upon everyone who has a feeling for the natural beauty of Sjælland and the beneficent quiet and dreamy peace which rests over the district. It is this mood that creates the unique idyl of Fredensborg.



BORGÅ, AN ANCIENT TOWN OF WOODEN HOUSES

A Poet's Town

Borgå, Where Runeberg's Memory Is Enshrined

By BERTEL GRIPENBERG

BORGÅ is, of course, just a small town among small towns. Still, there is always something to be said even about a small town, although it may not have so much to offer from the architectural or historical standpoint as many of the old cities and strongholds of central and southern Europe. At least this town does not lack for age. It is so old that its founding is lost in the obscurity of ancient times, or perhaps it would be safer to say of medieval times; for in antiquity proper there were most probably no people at all in the whole of Finland, and that part of the country in which among other towns Borgå lies was apparently submerged at that time by the Yoldia Sea, which was later wiped out by the rising of the land. It is known, however, that from as long ago as there are records of Finland, that is to say from about as far back as the year 1000, trade was carried on at the mouth of the little Borgå River, which was probably larger then than

now, between the fur-clad heathen of the interior and the Germans, Swedes, and other inhabitants of the Baltic coasts who voyaged thither. This may have been about the year 1000, perhaps a little later, perhaps a little earlier. As the country was very sparsely populated at that time, there can hardly have been any trade on a large scale.

It is very likely, too, that the Vikings used to pass through Borgå on their trips to the East. It is even possible that one of those places where the ancient Swedish-Finnish war fleets used to meet was located in the group of islands off Borgå. By the eleventh or twelfth century the town was already under the Swedish Crown. The date when it was given its municipal charter cannot now be ascertained, as all the oldest documents have been lost in the numerous sackings which the town has undergone at the hands of enemies as well as in conflagrations suffered in the ordinary course of events. From documents preserved elsewhere, however, we know that already at the beginning of the fifteenth century Borgå had burgomasters and a council, which indicates clearly that the place was already an incorporated town. This is no less clearly shown by the fact that on the hoary graystone church the date 1414 is carved. Archeologists are of the opinion, however, from the style of construction, that the church is much older but was apparently rebuilt at the beginning of the fifteenth century. Not far from the cathedral lies the so-called Castle Hill (Borgbacken), a double circular earthen rampart obviously the work of human hands, which probably constituted some sort of fortification. Perhaps at some time one of the royal castles surrounded by wooden palisades stood here, or perhaps the pedigree of this monument goes still further back, in which case it is probably the remains of a Viking stronghold. We do know, as a matter of fact, that the Viking strongholds around the Baltic Sea were never stone castles or walled fortresses, but consisted of a log house surrounded by earthen ramparts and wooden palisades. The palisades have, of course, long since rotted down, and it is really only the circular earthen ramparts which are still standing. And even these are extremely rare.

Old Borgå has not had the good fortune to live a quiet and peaceful life during its long existence. Its situation relatively near to the border between Finland and her hereditary enemy, Russia, has been the cause of its suffering frequently from war and strife. What may have happened earlier we do not know, but this much is certain: that already by the sixteenth century Borgå had been burnt down and plundered by the Russians no fewer than three times. During the period of Swedish imperialism in the seventeenth century the hereditary foe did not venture so far as this, but during the Great Northern War of

1708 a Russian detachment made its appearance here and burned the town so thoroughly that scarcely a single house was left standing. But with a tenacity, vitality, and faith in the future bordering on the miraculous, the people of Borgå have always raised their town up anew from its ashes. One part of the town, that in which the old cathedral is situated, is called the Old Town and consists to this day largely of houses dating from the eighteenth century. As they lie there on the hill around the church along narrow, winding alleys, often surrounded by blossoming orchards, they present a very attractive and idyllic picture.

The new town, which has grown up gradually in the course of the nineteenth century farther down towards the river's mouth, exhibits no original or remarkable features.

The town still lives its quiet and industrious life today just as it has done for many centuries. At one time navigation was carried on with great sailing vessels to distant countries, a real maritime commerce, but this shipping has gradually narrowed down to a coast trade with the nearby towns. A few minor industries have flourished here. During a part of the eighteenth century, for example, the town was the seat of a considerable textile industry, which, according to the practice of the time, was, of course, carried on by hand. Nowadays it is the lumber industry that supports the town.

It is not, however, through historical events and martial exploits that little Borgå has gained for itself a celebrated name in the Northern countries and of course especially in Finland. Here it was that Finland's great national bard, Johan Ludvig Runeberg, lived and worked for many years. Runeberg, who was born in 1804, had first thought of a career in the University at Helsingfors, but when he was met there with jealousy and intrigues from several quarters he gave up this plan. In the year 1837 a teaching position in what was at that time the Borgå *gymnasium* or high school for boys fell vacant, and, making a quick decision, Runeberg applied for this position and was appointed. He moved to Borgå in May 1837, greatly regretted by the many friends he had made in intellectual circles in Helsingfors. Runeberg remained at Borgå for all the rest of his life, that is to say until 1877, and here he created the greater part of his immortal poetry.

A peculiar circumstance of which we should take note is that during his long life he hardly ever left Borgå. Now and then he would visit the nearby Helsingfors, which in his day lay some hours' journey from Borgå—in our day this trip can be made by automobile in an hour. He also visited Sweden, but only once. These were the only journeys that this greatest poet of the North ever undertook. The only explanation

of this peculiar fact seems to be that his great and wide-ranging spirit had food enough for thought and poetry within itself and did not need any travels to collect new impressions and sensations. His was a calm and manly nature which was not driven by any nervousness out on distant journeys, and he knew that at home in this insignificant little town he could work and write as well or better than in any of the swarming metropolises of the world. The summer months, when the school had vacation, he regularly spent amid the beautiful scenery of Kroksnäs outside of Borgå. He loved Finland's scenery beyond all else, and it was enough for him. In the summers he busied himself with fishing, in the autumn he wandered about with his gun in the hunting-grounds which at that time extended right up to the outskirts of the town. It was out in nature that he used to find the motifs for his poems, and usually he worked them over in his head until they were almost finished. During the summers he wrote nothing at all. It was not before autumn and winter that the summer's crop of subjects and ideas ripened into those strong, virile, beautifully finished poems which enchanted both his contemporaries and posterity, and which at least in Finland are still in no wise threatened with the customary fate of poems—silence and oblivion.

According to contemporary testimony Runeberg was not much interested, after his removal to Borgå, in scholarly studies or the reading of scholarly books. But he had a lively interest in the literature both of his own and of earlier periods which he studied eagerly and followed carefully. His favorite Swedish poet was Franz Mikael Franzén, whose gentle and limpid verse seemed to him to be the culmination of all lyric poetry. Nowadays, however, Franzén, once so famous, is completely forgotten; scarcely a line of his poetry is known outside of the narrow circle of literary research scholars. There is a mystery concealed in this, that a poet may be admired to the point of idolatry by his own generation only to be completely forgotten a few years after his death. Among other authors who were popular in that day Runeberg must have been chiefly impressed by Goethe and Walter Scott, both of whom were then at the height of their honor and reputation. But when one looks at the library in his home, which is now preserved as a national memorial, one notes that the supply of books in the house cannot be considered large according to modern standards. Lack of means had doubtless much to do with the smallness of his library as also with the rarity of his travels. Runeberg's family was large: he had not fewer than six sons to bring up on his meager teacher's salary. Moreover, since his home soon became a rendezvous for all persons of literary or artistic interests who happened to be passing through the town, and



BORGÅ, ONCE THE HOME OF THE POET RUNEBERG, WHOSE HOUSE IS now OWNED BY THE TOWN

since hospitality was a law there, one can readily understand that it was no easy task for his wife, Fredrika Tengström, an intelligent woman with literary gifts also, to hold things together. Here a group of friends sat many an evening until far into the night discussing contemporary poetry, philosophy, or political questions; for it must be remembered that this period was one of political unrest and new developments in Finland, and that the intellectual life of the country was at a very high level. It was on such occasions that Runeberg's genius flashed forth most brilliantly. Many of those who outlived him have since borne witness to how wise and witty, humane and manly in his thoughts and views the admired poet could be at such times. To his circle of friends belonged many who had formerly been officers in the army which in 1808-09 lost Finland to Russia, and it is certain that from them he imbibed much of the spirit of this army doomed beforehand to defeat before a superior force. The rest he had heard from the peasantry and ex-soldiers while tutoring as a young student up in the interior wastes of Finland where his love for the beauty of nature also first struck root. Investigators of later times have, of course, pointed out that the Finnish army of 1808 was by no means the army of ideal heroes that Runeberg's poetry presents to our view. Among the



RUNEBERG'S HOME

his ideal, which he never ceased to praise in officers and men.

Owing to the fact that Runeberg was so vastly superior intellectually to those near him, it came about that he put his stamp to a large degree upon the whole intellectual life of Borgå. Around him assembled all the best that the town possessed of intelligence and ability. Above all, his home became a place which was visited by all passing travelers of more or less importance in the intellectual life of the country. This may not seem to mean very much, but the fact of the matter is that at this time, before the building of railroads, all traffic from Helsingfors eastward went through Borgå and people were only too glad to stop over a night to visit the ever popular and ever hospitable bard.

One marvels at the rich inner resources that the poet must have had in order thus year after year, with his monotonous school work and this social life which must occasionally have become wearisome, to live

officers' corps there still remained much of that spirit of dissension and faction which in the war of 1788 had resulted in the rather inglorious treaty of Anjala. But it was not men of that type whom Runeberg loved and honored in his songs. As everybody knows, the simple and honest fulfilment of duty was



AN OLD HOUSE IN BORGÅ

out his days in the kindly but certainly not very expansive atmosphere of the small town.

One can well imagine that the Borgå of our day, at least in its exterior, does not differ to any very considerable extent from the town as it was when Runeberg lived there. Dominating the whole city and surrounded by old maples and

lindens rises the still older cathedral. Owing to the frequent depredations which the town has suffered at the hands of the Russians, the old temple does not hold so many treasures as cathedrals of like age in more fortunately situated countries. There is, however, an ancient communion cup preserved there of a type rare in all the North. It escaped the plunderings and now constitutes the chief ornament of the church. In the seventeen-sixties Borgå was swept by a great fire which laid waste the larger part of the town of that time. After this fire a number of rather small stone buildings were erected here by the chief of the Royal Engineers, Flensburg. Among these may be mentioned the old town hall of Borgå which has now been turned into a provincial museum and in which a number of historical objects and documents from the earliest times to our day have been zealously and carefully brought together. Since Borgå district is one of the oldest civilized parts of Finland, more or less valuable relics of antiquity are still being found in the environs of the town. It is worthy of note that even the Stone Age is quite fully represented here.

Life in the Borgå of our days is calm and peaceful, as no doubt it always has been. A great part of the town is planted with orchards, and several of the main streets are bordered by rows of lindens and birches. In the course of time, as a result of the rising of the land, the town has come to lie a considerable distance inland. Consequently the real shipping no longer comes up to the town itself. There only the fishing boats of the islanders and the numerous motorboats of the townspeople ply. But the call of the sea is still felt by the inhabitants of the town, and to this day one finds sailing vessels carrying the flags of the Borgå shipowners even beyond the Baltic.

The writer has for many years enjoyed the peace and serenity of this ancient seat of culture, and has become most deeply attached to its calm and its memories.

Of its memorials the most outstanding, after the cathedral, is Runeberg's home. It was bought after the poet's death by the Finnish State to be preserved as a shrine for posterity. In the low frame house everything is kept just as it was in the poet's day. On the walls hang old pictures—that is to say, pictures from the nineteenth century, but of course we already call them old, for time flies quickly these days. On a separate table stands a huge silver urn with the cover adorned with the lion of Finland. This urn is a present from veterans of the war of 1808-09, who wished to honor in this way the man who had honored their deeds, which perhaps but for him had been soon forgotten. At the window are all sorts of potted plants, the descendants of the potted plants which were cultivated by Fru Runeberg, who was a lover of



THE CATHEDRAL AT BORGÅ

flowers. Silence reigns in the low rooms, and one imagines one hears the spirits of the poet and of memory whispering through them. Everything is living and yet dead, but out of this death springs the spirit which has held the people of Finland together in dark and troubrous times, most recently during our latest, and let us hope final, war of liberation against Russia in 1918. This war was fought in the spirit of Runeberg, and many of its figures were worthy to be sung by the deathless voice of the national poet; and where he rests in his grave at Näsebacken outside the town, let us hope he knows that the soil of a free and not an enslaved Finland now envelops his dust. It is this home of Runeberg's which in our day spreads its historic mood over the town and marks it out as a place of memories and a pilgrim's shrine. May it long be so! For so long as Runeberg's spirit lives in Finland, this little country, constantly threatened by dangers though it be, will nevertheless be able to face the future with confidence.

FAMOUS PAINTINGS IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AT OSLO

Notes by JOHAN H. LANGAARD

II. *Albertine*, by Christian Krohg

The renaissance which took place in Norwegian art in the 1880's was conditioned not only by a new understanding of the technical means to artistic effect, but also by a new interest in social problems. This is clearly seen in Christian Krohg's most important work, *Albertine*, painted in 1887, and still one of the basic pillars of modern Norwegian art.

While the Naturalistic authors were describing the victims of social inequalities, Krohg pleaded the cause of these unfortunates through the medium of his painting. *Albertine* is a sharply realistic argument in the debate on prostitution. It shows a group of street-walkers gathered in the waiting-room of the police doctor. All shades and degrees are represented, from the most hardened vice to the inexperience of the country girl, Albertine, who has tumbled right into trouble immediately upon her arrival in the city. As a human document typical of the times it is unrivalled in Norwegian art. In its pictorial expression it is one of the finest artistic achievements we have seen in Norway, by virtue of its bold, broad technique and the brilliance and solidity of its deep, rich pigments.

Christian Krohg was born in Christiania in 1852 and died in the same city in 1925. Beginning in 1873, he spent some years studying with Gussow in Berlin. In 1881 he made his first sojourn in Paris, where he afterwards worked for several years criticizing in the Academie Calarossi. From 1907 to his death he was professor and director of the newly-founded Academy of Art in Oslo.

Krohg was first and foremost a figure painter. Besides the poor in Christiania, it was the sturdy and frugal pilots and fisherfolk at Skagen and along the coast of Norway that especially appealed to him. He would usually go out in their boats, and the near view of his models resulted in a singularly vivid effect, making his pictures seem vibrant with motion. His master hand is also evident in a long series of splendidly characterized portraits.



ALBERTINE, BY CHRISTIAN KNOBLAUCH

The Oath of Truce

(*Tryggthamól*)

By LEE M. HOLLANDER

WE MODERNS are apt to think of laws and statutes as the driest matter imaginable; but primitive law, based as it is on the profoundest ethical concepts of the race, has many elements in common with poetry. Especially is this the case when the law seeks to instance and motivate sanctions and punishments. Thus we find embedded in the old Icelandic common law a formula of composition between contending parties, which, both in form and spirit, is essentially "poetic." Indeed, in the passages where a mighty curse is called down on the head of him who will violate the oath, heights of truly great poetry are reached. For the benefit of both witnesses and the interested parties, the abstract "everywhere" in which outlawry will be visited on him is translated into concrete images which pass before the mind's eye in an artless series of vivid impressions from the life of man, the boundless earth, the sky, and the sea. Here, the language of the law becomes lyrical and billows along in the alliterative measure native to the North.

There has been strife between N. N. and N. N.; but now peace has been made between them,

*and amends made
as the domesmen deemed
and the judges judged
and the awarders weighed.
Hath the offer been taken
as even-handed,
with full fees
and forth-paid ounces,
to them handseled
who were to have them.*

Ye shall henceforth be men

*at peace and pledged,
at ale and eating,
at thing and at folk-meet,
at kirk-going
and in king's hall;*

and wherever men gather together, there shall ye be so agreed as

though this matter had never come between you. Ye shall share

*both steel and steak
and all the things
that are betwixt you,
like friends and not like foes.*

And if, later, strife arise between you twain, and things be not in good case, then shall it

*be settled by fees,
but no swords reddened.*

But that one of you

*who is traitor to this truce
and goes against word given,*

he shall be

*as ill outlaw
hunted and hated,
so far as men ever
an outlaw hunt,
as Christian folk
visit churches,
as Heathen folk
have hallowed shrines,
as fire doth flame
and earth is green—
as babe calleth mother
and mother suckles child,
as folks kindle fire,
ships sail the sea
and shields are borne—
as the sun shineth,
snow drifteth,
Finn glideth,
fir tree groweth—
as falcon flieth
on a fair summer day
with a brisk-blowing breeze
under both his wings—
as the sky arches
and earth is tilled,
wind doth howl,
waters flow seaward,
and seed is sown.*

*He shall shun
churches and churched ones,
God's house and men's homes—
every abode
but hell only.*

Now hold ye both this book [the Bible], on which lies also the money which N. N. offers as redress for himself and his heirs,

*born or unborn,
begotten or unbegotten,
named or unnamed.*

N. N. accepts this composition, and N. N. swears an everlasting peace. It is to hold

*the while earth lasteth
and live on it men.*

Now, then, are N. N. and N. N.

*agreed and at one,
where'er they may meet—
on shore or on water,
on ship or on snowshoe,
on high sea or on horseback—
to share in the rowing
or in bailing out,
on bench or on deck,
if need there be—
at one with each other
as is father with son
or son with father,
in all their dealings.*

Now N. N. and N. N. shall clasp hands: hold ye well this truce, to the liking of Christ and of all the men who have now heard this oath of peace.

*May he have God's grace
who holds this truce,
but his wrath, who rives
rightful truce—
his grace who holds it!*

Be ye now happy and at peace!

*Witnesses be we
who about you stand!*



THE GOLDEN EAGLE RESTING ON HIS PREY

The Golden Eagle, the King of the Mountains

With Photographs by the Author

By STIG WESSLÉN

THE GOLDEN EAGLE is the winged monarch of the broad mountain lands in Lapland. Only the bear, the wolf, and the wolverine offer him real fight when he attacks, and none but man, with his rifle in hand, is his acknowledged enemy and master. Old Lapps, who, from the time they learned to walk, have roamed over the mountains with their herds of reindeer, leading them every autumn from the mountains eastward to the forest and every spring back once more into the mountains, are fond of relating how the golden eagle attacks even full-grown reindeer; how he alights and digs his claws

into the back of the startled reindeer, and attempts to kill her with his mighty beak; how the reindeer at a terrific pace rushes headlong down the mountain in an attempt to reach the birches where she may brush off her obnoxious rider by rubbing close to the limbs of the trees; how, in an attempt to prevent this treatment, the eagle tries to stop her and hold her to the spot by grasping a tree trunk or branch with one of his clawed feet; and how, finally, the eagle miserably meets his fate by being torn asunder—literally split in two.

It is seldom, however, that the powerful bird attacks either the largest of the mammals or man. But when driven by hunger, he, like all other creatures, becomes bold and reckless; he then fears nothing. And after the Lapps have taken their herds away for the winter from the vast, barren wildernesses under the Arctic Circle, when the mountain world lies dark and desolate, and bitter cold holds sway, the eagle goes on extended hunting expeditions, and he takes tribute of any life that may be found.

On the north side of Ertektjåkko, below a rocky precipice of one thousand meters, there is a little hut. This hut is not nearly so high as a man, and he must bend low to enter through the opening in the wall which serves for a door. For several months this cabin has been inhabited by four Swedes, who hunt ptarmigans on the surrounding mountain sides. In long, curved lines, one outside the other, they have cut down, at intervals, the fullest birches, and in the topmost branches of each of the felled trees they have placed a little snare. Every morning each of the men skis down his own beat—*strett*—which is limited in the number of snares to as many as he will have time to take care of during the light of one short winter day. Each of the men has six such beats, and each one is visited once a week.

At daybreak the ptarmigans come to eat the birch buds. With the trees cut down, it is so easy for them to get at the desired food; they run and peck at the branches and fill their crops with it. As they come close to the top of the birch, they find a little path through the branches, along which they can conveniently make their way to the next birch. In this path the snare is set, and when a ptarmigan runs through it, a soft, fine metal thread encircles her throat. She flutters a little—flaps her wings, so that the cold, downy snow flies up in a cloud about her—and thereafter lies still, strangled by the wire. She soon freezes into a hard lump.

The golden eagle, undisputed monarch of the air, as well as the careful raven, has long known of the treacherous way the tall, two-legged creatures have of seizing prey. The golden eagle, who is the bolder of the two, and the wiser, does not allow himself to be frightened by



WHERE THE EAGLE NESTS

On the other hand, if he sees a ptarmigan hunter ski along his *strett* to get the many bits of prey which lie there hard and frozen, or which still flutter about in the glittering snares, then he knows that the next time the prey will be his. For a long time, from his safe retreat on the mountain top, he may quietly survey the mountain plateau and the valley, as, unseen and unhindered, he cleans his wings with the tip of his mighty beak and his head with his big claws—until, in a moment, borne on his great wings, he glides down the valley to the place where the ptarmigans lie. There he cuts loose for himself, without quarter, the ptarmigan the raven recently wished to get at, but dared not take because of the glittering bit of steel. From this white bird, already frozen hard, he tears off the head. If he is hungry, he may also tear off a wing, or even both wings. In the next snare, however, the ptarmigan may have been recently caught, and still be warm and soft. This one he eats up altogether, where she lies. The next ptarmigan he finds he also takes for himself, and eats it up without leaving a trace. But the fuller

hanging pieces of iron, or by bits of cloth above the snares. He knows the two-legged beasts of prey better than anybody else in the mountain dale. For decades he has followed their antics, and he knows when there is danger afoot.

If he sees one of them with the stick which sometimes spouts fire with a terrific din, he sails out over the mountain heights far from their reach, and soon disappears in the hazy distance. If he sees a human being in the neighborhood of his nest, he knows from experience that he is being hunted, and he gives up his home immediately and forever—or at least for years to come.

he gets, the more fastidious he becomes. Soon he leaves the frozen birds untouched for the two-legged creatures, but from those that are still warm he continues for some time to take of the choicest meat, before he flies away to his ledge to sleep through the long, dark night in peace and quiet. When the Swedes come to the scene of his feast and see the impressions of the mighty wings and large feet of the eagle in the snow, they promise themselves by all that is right and holy that in the spring, if not sooner, the mighty robber's life will be ended.

When the storm has been lulled and the clouds no longer lie like a heavy fog over the mountain plateaus, reindeer in small flocks or individually may be seen here and there. They are staying through the winter, even though the Lapps have gone eastward with their herds. The starved animals kick away the snow with their forefeet and dig with their muzzles in the moss, trying in this manner to find food. They roam far and wide, going out over deep chasms and climbing far down the precipices. Sometimes the snow gives way from under their hoofs, and they are pitched down and killed on the jutting rocks; at the foot of the precipice one may see dead reindeer here and there, where several have fallen down the same incline. They are welcome prey indeed for the golden eagle, as well as for the raven and the fox.

During the night the wolf's howl is heard—long, blood-curdling, chilling as the frozen North. In the morning the pack comes hunting—five, ten to twelve in a group—blood-red jaws with hanging tongues, shaggy, light grey coats. The reindeer try to escape by running up the mountain side. Legs astride, with heads thrown back and tongues



THE FEMALE EAGLE BRINGS A LARGE PINE BRANCH FOR ITS NEST-BUILDING



WHERE THE FOREST ENDS

hanging low on one side of their mouths, they run for their lives from peak to peak, ever upward—as long as they can keep ahead. Then they pitch down the mountain side, until they are caught by the wolves. The foremost wolf in the pack seizes the hindmost deer. The others shoot by. They haven't time to stop to eat; they are out to kill. In the heated hunt, they have completely lost control of their senses. The snow whirls in cascades about hoofs and legs. The hot, steaming animals run for their lives—the reindeer to save their hides, the wolves to escape dying from starvation. The wolves snatch at the hind legs of the reindeer, and bite into their thighs; they are dragged along and tossed violently in every direction, as the reindeer attempts, in impetuous spurts, to rush on. The high speed diminishes gradually. Fatigued, the reindeer moves in a semicircle, and attempts to turn around and fight with horns and forehoofs. The wolf lets go, and with a lightning leap gets the reindeer by the throat. The reindeer rears on her hind legs. The wolf raises himself also. For a little while they remain standing opposite each other, while the reindeer attempts to strike her enemy with her forehoofs—furious blows, which land on either side of the wolf, with no effect. During the impetuous flight, the reindeer breathes hard and fast; she is therefore choked immediately by the wolf's sharp bite.

If the flock of wolves succeed in killing many reindeer—so many that they cannot eat all the meat at once—they select the fattest

animals among their booty; these they flay, ripping up the hide above the tail, and, in spots, here and there all over the body. They eat only the meat, and never touch the entrails.

After a few days the ravens gather on the field of slaughter. The black birds cry and croak in their peculiar snuffling manner. They cut in on each other and grudge each other the food; when they have succeeded in loosening a piece of the frozen meat, large and heavy enough to suit them, they fly away immediately to their homes in the steep mountain sides, where their eggs have already been laid in a thick layer of reindeer bristles.

When the ravens are at their noisiest over their carrion, eating themselves full for days to come, the golden eagle may drop down in their midst. His keen, far-seeing eye misses nothing. From afar he has seen life and motion, where the reindeer carcasses lie, and he knows what that means: frozen fresh meat. Worried by his presence, the ravens immediately move away from the reindeer on which he has descended. His great wings remain for a long time half outspread, adding to his imposing size. He emits some gruff, hawking sounds, as though he would let it be known immediately that he does not wish to be disturbed during his meal. And with his mighty, crooked beak he pulls and tears loose large pieces of flesh, which after many violent up-and-down jerks of his head, he finally succeeds in getting down his wide gullet. Then, carrying a whole shoulder, with legs and hoofs hanging therefrom, he rises from the spot, and soars down the valley—after which the ravens return to the remains of the reindeer from which they were driven, and with their long, straight bills they try, as the eagle did, to break loose as large pieces of flesh as possible.

Down in the valley the female eagle already is busy selecting a nest for the year. She therefore has not much time for providing food. At Varåive she has seven homes from which to choose, at Habakpakte three, at Snerraåive two, and at Baddasjokk one—in the steep, high river bank. But there is another pair of eagles considering these homes. The four eagles sometimes sweep together over the mountain ridges—a stately picture. At times one may be seen to rise high and straight above the others, and then drop down at a giddy pace, wings close to his body, until he is even with his mates.

It is horribly cold— -40° centigrade. Far down in the valley, like the sound of a distant waterfall, is heard from the mountains a faint swishing of the wind as it stirs up the snowdrifts.

To the east, below the long, gradual slope of Snerraåive, above the deepest part of the valley, where the lakes lie and the river in the summer flows toward the sea, high peaks with steep precipices rise on



THE FOX TAKES HIS TURN AT THE DEAD REINDEER

all sides. In one of these, near the edge of a chasm in a tall, ancient, broken pine tree—one of the few to be found there—the golden eagle has for years had his nest. This nest has already been selected for the year by one of the females. For a long time she sits on the snow-covered nest or on the crooked limb just above it. Suddenly she flies down to the ground. From the lower limbs of a young pine she breaks loose with her powerful beak a large branch with thick bark, and with it she flies up to the nest again. She places the branch on the edge of the nest, and soon thereafter sweeps out over the frozen mountain.

At Habakpakte the other pair of eagles have chosen an old nest for themselves. It lies in a high and inaccessible precipice far above the ground, under a jutting ledge. At Maddavare another pair of eagles have appropriated one of the nests, this, too, built on a precipice. At Kaivojokk another pair are adding to an old nest in a pine, and at Kuostertjåkko is still another, built on a precipice, soon ready for occupancy.

Toward spring the ptarmigans have their playground at Habakpakte; even in the winter they gather there in large numbers. They are found, to be sure, practically everywhere, but in certain places they seem naturally to collect, as though they found there more conveniently

the necessities of life, and with less danger. Rabbits are numerous in the region. The long-eared white creatures hop around pretty nearly everywhere, and are not especially shy. They always take plenty of time, sit up on their hind legs, and curiously regard the intruder, before they shoot away, on springy legs, to some protecting bush, from which vantage point they may follow with keen interest for a long time all the doings of the newcomer. The only trees that grow at Habakpakte are birches—the topmost stunted trees with trunks twisted by the wind—and the different species of willow, which can hardly be seen above the deep snow during the winter. Even the birches are few and far between up to the foot of the precipice, and, above, there is only the vast, desolate expanse of snow. Seemingly, neither the ptarmigan nor the rabbit—these carefree beings, who never stop to consider that at any time an eagle may be above them, or a hawk, or the mountain owl, or possibly a roving wood fox or mountain fox upon them—could hope for any safer existence here than anywhere else. Usually they do not take to their heels and try to save their skins until it is all too late.

On some bitter cold day, when the fleecy white clouds skim far above the mountain's topmost peaks, a pair of eagles come flying toward one of the nests in the precipice, after they have lived for a long time farther up in the valley. Year after year they have inhabited some one of the three nests which long since were built on the most inaccessible parts of the precipice. Sometimes they stay here all through the winter. Then they often find it convenient to settle down for a night in one of the old nests, which every fall and early winter are demolished by water and snow but are repaired again during the winter. Up here, where no pines grow, they build their nests with small birch twigs, lining them with withered grass, which they carry in their beaks from below the precipice. So they have begun every winter, but it is not always they have had the pleasure of seeing their young fly out of the nest. Many times human beings have come here, and the eagles have heard the bang from the mighty



THE RAVEN EATS HIS FILL OF A REINDEER KILLED BY THE WOLVES

claw which has the power to grip its prey from interminable distances.

When the eagles live here, they always capture their prey in the valley. After the rabbit's curiosity has finally turned to fear and he has got to his feet and hopped away, there is scant possibility of his escaping the eagle flying above him. Low over the mountain woodland the eagle follows, then with a precipitate drop he ends the rabbit's life by a powerful blow with his breastbone. The rabbit's death cry is seldom heard. The terrible blow kills it immediately. And just as easily the eagle kills the ptarmigans which run around down there on the snow, trying to get at the buds on the trees. Sometimes he strikes them so hard that the feathers fly.

He remains the winged monarch of the mountains.

Portrait of a People

By TED OLSON

*THEY are a proud and a frugal people—these,
My kinsmen. And they love this frugal land.
It is indeed lovely, but not kind.*

*I do not think that brine and granite ever
Were meant for husbandry. The stone erodes
Tools too fast, and flesh no less surely,
And water rots men as it rots their nets.*

*Yet they love well these hard hills, and the sea.
And they are flinty, somehow, and they have
The wide blue gaze of ocean.*

I have seen

*Their homes, hung on the cliff like a hawk's nest,
Or caught like a green leaf in the dusky pelt
Of pine wood. I have watched them harvest summer,
Cramming their mows with sunshine against the dark:
Summer as tart and golden as the cloudbERRIES
In mountain marshes, sweet as the trickle of bells
From sæter pastures in the brief blue nights,
Sweet as all things that bloom precariously
Between two dooms.*

For soon the birches

*Are bare, and the icy rains begin, and the cattle
Are roped in the stall again, and night devours
Day's yellow wheat and waxes monstrous fat.*

*They tame the dark with song. They forge the cold
To pinions lean and sinewy as the hawk's.
Their axes wake the woods with a brawny music.
They till the sea with oaken ploughs, and reap
A cold and silvery harvest; while their women
Weave, and wait, until the winds of spring
Whistle their pack of waters down, and fill
South-leaning sails.*

*It is not strange that men
Who give so much to granite and the sea
Should take themselves the look of sea and granite.
And it is fitting that such men should bear*

*Names quarried from the soil: Haugen, the hill;
Moen, the heath; Stendal, stony valley;
And that a man should take for his the name
His farm bears. For men themselves perish,
But the soil endures, and the service of the soil.*

*Sod and flesh—it is a strange mating.
But a happy one, I think. They love this land,
And love has never driven a usurer's bargain
To claim its proper hire.*

*And I remember
The poet's question: "What has love of land
Given to you?" My answer I have read
In the eyes of ancient women minding their goats,
And old men gathering twigs and reindeer moss,
And young men mowing, and girls milking.
Like the "bright Tyrians and tall Greeks,"
They, too, answer: "Peace."*



BJÖRNSEN'S GRAVE IN OSLO DECKED WITH FLOWERS ON THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

The Björnson Centennial in Oslo

THE hundredth anniversary of Björnstjerne Björnson's birth was both a national and an international festival, revealing at once the intimate affection of the Norwegian people for their great poet and leader, and the reverential gratitude of those other nations whose cause he made his own.

In the Norwegian capital the official celebration began on December 4 and culminated on Björnson's birthday, December 8. The various programs were so arranged as to let Björnson speak for himself and to widen and deepen our knowledge of him. The National Theater gave a series of performances illustrating the various phases of Björnson's dramatic writing. As the most distinguished offering must be mentioned the tragedy

Beyond Our Power (Over ævne I), no doubt the greatest and most original play Björnson ever wrote. As the bedridden Fru Sang, Johanne Dybwad has for years had one of her star rôles, and she sustained this exceedingly difficult part with all her old power and brilliance. As the visionary, Pastor Sang, Halfdan Christensen gave a finely shaded, spiritual interpretation, and the two main actors were sustained by a cast in which there was not a single weak link, even the smallest parts being taken by leading members of the National Theater's staff.

A contrast to the somber tragedy of *Beyond Our Power* was Björnson's best comedy *When the Young Vine Blooms (Naar den ny vin blomstrar)* with Ragna Wettergren as the middle-aged wife Fru



THE FESTIVE GATHERING IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE UNIVERSITY ON BJÖRN SON'S BIRTHDAY,
THE KING AND THE CROWN PRINCE AND CROWN PRINCESS IN THE FOREGROUND

Arvik and Egil Eide as Arvik. It was a breezy performance and was well received. Yet another phase of Björnson's dramatic genius was seen in the popular historic play *Mary Stuart* (*Marie Stuart af Skotland*) with Gerd Egede-Nissen a picturesque Queen of Scots and Hans Jacob Nielsen an appealing Darnley.

The sensation of the dramatic series was, however, a new play by Björnson, which has recently been discovered among his manuscripts. It was a prelude to his well known poetic drama *Sigurd Jorsalfar* and dealt with the other of the royal brothers, King Öystein, who stayed at home and built the country while Sigurd won fame in Constantinople and Jerusalem as a bold warrior. Björnson's son, Björn Björnson, has worked the two plays together into one of reasonable length under the common title *Konge-*

brödrene and under his instruction the play was given "in modern dress" so far as language and manners were concerned, some of Sigurd's men speaking in the broadest dialect of Oslo's East Side. It cannot be said that the experiment was altogether successful; the attempt to drape the stiff outlines of the saga drama in modern easy garments only made the stiffness more apparent. But the performance contained many single scenes of beauty and power, and the new parts of the play of course aroused intense interest. The contrasting rôles of the royal brothers, the dignified but somewhat dry King Öystein, and the mad but fascinating King Sigurd, were played, the former by Ingolf Schanche, the latter by August Oddvar.

The contribution of the University to the Centennial was a series of lectures

given alternately by the two chief authorities on Björnson, Professor Francis Bull who has edited the new edition of his collected works, and Professor Halvdan Koht who is publishing his letters, two volumes of which have just appeared.

Aside from the official celebration, Björnson programs were given throughout the country. In Oslo the young people's society known as Björnson-forbundet, under the leadership of its president, Headmaster Johan Hertzberg, gave several programs at which thousands of school children were gathered. A visit to Sagene public school showed that the children for months past had been studying Björnson, and the blackboards were filled with colored crayon pictures in which the children had expressed their conception of Öyvind and Marit, Thorbjörn and Synnöve. The visitor was impressed by the manner in which the Björnson ideal had penetrated to people of all ages and classes, a result possible



Photograph by Remfeldt

INGOLF SCHANCHE AS KING ØYSTEIN IN
Kongebrödrene

only to a country with a numerically small, homogeneous population.

Equally impressive was the foreign representation. To begin with the other Scandinavian countries, Björnson fought valiantly for the emancipation of Norway from cultural dependence on Denmark and political dependence on Sweden, but no one was more ready to extend to both the hand of fellowship and brotherhood. Both these countries as well as Iceland and the Faroes sent strong delegations, in which may be noted the Danish critic, Vilhelm Andersen, the Swedish critic John Landquist, and the Icelandic author Gunnar Gunnarsson.

Björnson especially loved Denmark, and it was through his sympathy for the Danish South Jutlanders living under German rule that he began the campaigns for oppressed minorities in Europe which filled so large a part of his later years. The warmest, most inspired praise of Björnson heard at the Centennial in Oslo was from the delegates of the oppressed



Photograph by Remfeldt

UNNI TORKILDSSEN AS HELENE IN *When the Young Vine Blooms*

races which have now been liberated. Among them was the veteran South Jutland leader, H. P. Hansen Nörremölle, whose countrymen are now citizens of Denmark. He reminded his hearers of the time when Björnson's patriotic songs were forbidden in Slesvig. The largest delegation was that of Czechoslovakia, and one of the delegates, Vladimir Hurban, now

Minister to Sweden, told of how he had served a term in jail for having printed an article by Björnson in his father's paper. There were representatives also from France and Germany. Altogether the Centennial revealed how wide was the span of Björnson's human sympathies, how extended his influence.

H. A. L.

Playgrounds and Sports in Sweden

By J. SIGFRID EDSTRÖM

Address at the International Recreation Congress in Los Angeles, 1932

IT IS a privilege and a pleasure to speak today at this, the First International Recreation Congress. I have promised to tell you something about recreation and sports as well as the conditions of playgrounds in the Scandinavian countries, and particularly in my own country—Sweden. Before doing so, may I say a few words about the playground movement in general.

The need of exercise for the body was felt and organized far back in ancient times. We know of the Greek Olympic Games. We further know of the Vikings' wrestling matches, and we have also many other proofs of the need of physical exercise even before the time of Christ. We know the old saying: "A sound mind in a sound body." But never has the need of exercise been greater than in our day, when industry is making its progress through civilization. As early as in the eighteenth century the use of machines driven by hand or water wheels became common. During the nineteenth century, after the invention of the steam engine by Watt, concentration of industry be-

came possible, and today we find immense centers of concentrated industry in many parts of the world. The workmen and employees living in such congested places have few opportunities to breathe fresh air and to get exercise. Therefore they need playgrounds. There is also another reason for this. Through the rationalization and standardization of modern life every individual gets more and more tied to a certain place of work. He or she does not get about as much as formerly, and thus playgrounds are necessary, even where work is not so concentrated as in the large industrial centers.

Thus we find the need of playgrounds growing all over the world. We are therefore happy that this Congress has taken up the study of this important question.

Let me now tell you something about the Scandinavian countries. First, may I remind you that these countries are situated far up in the North, in the same latitude as Alaska. Conditions there are very different from conditions in this country. We have long summer days and short winter days. In fact, during winter we



SKATING IN THE VASA PARK IN STOCKHOLM

have often darkness for twenty hours a day. In summer we have summer sports such as soccer football, athletics, rowing, sailing, and swimming. In winter we have winter sports such as skiing, skating, ice-hockey, and bandy. In Norway and northern Sweden the winter sports dominate. In Denmark they hardly exist, as the winters are too mild. In Denmark gymnastics, bicycling, rowing, and football are the dominating sports.

Sports in Sweden are well organized. The Swedish National Gymnastic and Sporting Association is a union of the clubs working in Sweden for the promotion of gymnastics and sports with the exception of horse-, motorcar-, motorecycle-, and yacht-racing, shooting, and boxing. This association constitutes the highest authority in the country in matters concerning the organization and direction of Swedish sports. Through its special associations for the various branches of sport, it represents Sweden in foreign

countries in questions dealing with athletics and sports. The aim of the Swedish National Gymnastic and Sporting Association is to give the athletes and clubs the advantage of common rules and regulations and to promote harmony and co-operation between them; to support, further, and develop Swedish gymnastics and sports, especially such as can be carried on without expensive apparatus, and to promote, in general, healthy bodily exercise so as to increase the physical and mental power of the Swedish people.

The active chairman of this National Association is our Crown Prince, whose initiative and great qualities as a leader are much appreciated by the young people. May I also point out that the Swedish gymnastic system, originally developed by our great gymnastic teacher, Per Henrik Ling, is still a foundation for Swedish physical culture. In every school in Sweden gymnastics is compulsory, and every child has a daily period devoted to

suitable physical exercise. This has been carried on for nearly one hundred years and has given our people a sound physical constitution of which we are proud.

Naturally this physical development has needed open-air playgrounds as well as covered gymnasiums. Every school has its playground where the children have their required gymnastics and may play during their leisure hours. For the smaller children, most of the larger communities have arranged public playgrounds with proper apparatus. Often a suitable person is in charge of such playgrounds and teaches the children how to play.

But the children grow up, leave school, and go out to work and earn their living. Then they will need new playgrounds and gymnasiums. Many of our communities, with their eyes open to the importance of this question, have organized athletic sporting grounds where the members of the different sporting clubs may practise during spring, summer, and autumn. In the winter these grounds are generally converted into ice rinks for skating and playing skating ball games.

In the large cities such as Stockholm and Gothenburg there are a number of sporting grounds. In most communities the sporting grounds are owned or governed by the sporting associations. Often there is cooperation between the municipality and the local sporting clubs. On the board of directors governing the ground, there are one or two members appointed by the municipality. Through their influence the municipality often helps finance the athletic grounds. The Swedish State has frequently given financial assistance. Our country, as most other countries of the world, is at present suffering under the economic crisis. We have a number of unemployed. In order to give the unemployed work, the government has assisted by building sporting grounds. During the last year not less than \$300,000 was given for this purpose.

Unemployment money has also in many places been granted for the same purpose by the municipal authorities. In communities where larger industrial undertakings are dominant, the athletic grounds are often financed by industrial concerns.

I also wish to tell you about the energetic work which has been done by the athletes themselves. The young men spend evenings and Saturday afternoons working personally on the athletic grounds. Many beautiful sporting grounds have been erected in this way and remain monuments to the energy of the Swedish athletes. They have worked hard in order to secure a home of their own for their athletic activities.

Most of the athletic grounds in Sweden are designed in the following way: The interior contains a football ground about 110 by 70 yards. Around this is a running track 400 to 420 yards in length and from 3 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards wide. Besides this there are suitable places for jumping and throwing events and also generally a playground and a training ground for football. We have at present about one thousand athletic grounds in various parts of the country.

Furthermore, there are about seventy artificial skiing hills. A suitable skiing hill must have a certain profile which gives the ski jumper rapid speed at the jump itself. The lower part of the hill must also have a certain profile allowing the jumper to come down in a soft and easy manner. Such profiles are seldom found in nature and must therefore be built.

When speaking of athletic grounds I wish to mention that in most cities and communities there are also other facilities for sports and recreation. Thus we have the swimming pools. Sweden is full of lakes and rivers. The country is known as "the land of a thousand lakes," and in fact there are, if I am not mistaken, about six thousand lakes in Sweden. Besides these there are a number of rivers suit-

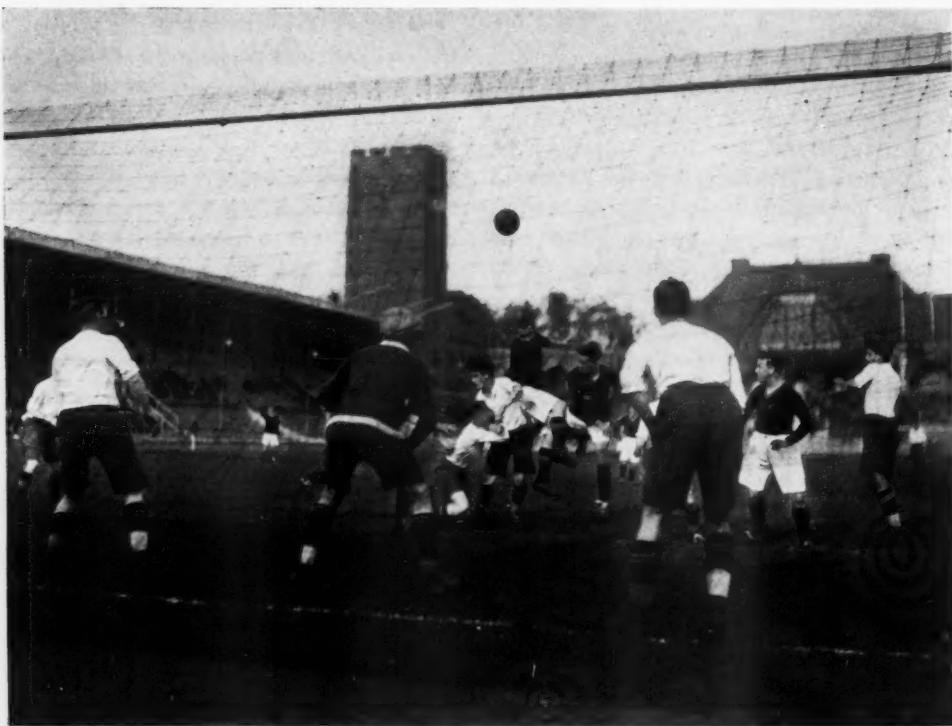
able for swimming. Finally bathing also takes place in the salt water at the coasts. Most of the swimming places have diving boards from which the young athletes, men and women, can practise. There are also arrangements for water polo and for competitions in swimming. In the larger cities one finds covered swimming halls where swimming can be carried on in the winter.

May I also mention the work of the Swedish Life Saving Society which is an independent organization and which has worked for forty years principally by giving instructors and teachers at the various schools lessons in swimming and life saving. In some schools the knowledge of swimming is even compulsory. The Life Saving Society assists the communities with advice and designs for building swimming pools and swimming halls.

Among other sports practised in Sweden, I wish to mention rowing and sailing

which are popular in our country. Rowing is mostly practised in the cities, where there are suitable club houses. A sport that is growing rapidly is canoeing. Sweden is a wonderful country for canoeing, as we are able to go up one river and down another, passing through the various lakes. Sailing is particularly popular, and most young men and women dream of sometime owning their own little sail-boat. There are yachting clubs in most of the cities and other communities, and sailing competitions are very frequent. The facilities for these sports have been arranged by the communities or by cooperation of the private clubs and the community.

Another interesting development in Sweden and Norway is the building of sporting houses, generally situated in a part of the country suitable for skiing, or in places that can be easily reached on skates or in a row-boat. A special asso-



FOOTBALL IN THE GREAT STADION

ciation for the promotion of skiing has been active during forty years. This association has built a number of skiing huts and designed model implements for skiing. It has also financed a number of courses to instruct school teachers in skiing. The teachers afterwards in their turn instruct the children in the noble sport of skiing. About three thousand teachers have studied at these private skiing courses. In many schools lessons in skiing are compulsory. The chief propaganda for skiing among the young people is, however, the great skiing trips to the mountains which are organized annually for the pupils in the schools who have shown good progress in skiing. These trips are organized by the above mentioned association for the promotion of skiing in cooperation with the Swedish Tourist Association. Every year about three thousand children from all parts of the country take part in these skiing trips to the mountains, which generally take place during the Easter vacation. The weather is then excellent and the children return from the excursion brown as Indians, burned by the sun in the high altitude.

It might interest you to hear that the association for promotion of skiing has its own museum of skiing implements containing about seven hundred different pieces. The oldest known ski of the world, which is no less than four thousand five hundred years old, is to be found there.

The Swedish lakes and rivers, so suitable for canoeing, sailing, and swimming during the summer, are also splendid in the winter for skating. Long-distance skating is, for instance, a very popular sport and so is ice-yachting as well as skating with a sail. It is remarkable what speed one can obtain with proper skates and a good and properly designed sail.

There are a number of other recreations in Sweden which I have not mentioned. Tennis is rapidly becoming a popular sport. Most communities have built covered courts. Then there is association

football which is perhaps the most practised sport of all in Sweden. Rugby does not exist. Furthermore, we have handball and other ball games. For you, my American friends, it may be interesting to know that very little golf is played and that baseball is unknown.

In order to increase the interest among the young people for athletics and sports in general, the Swedish National and Sporting Association has instituted an athletic badge which has become popular. There are five groups of tests in order to obtain this badge. The first group contains tests in swimming or gymnastics; the second group, jumping, and the third group, running. The fourth group contains tests in fencing, throwing the discus, throwing the javelin, or putting the shot; the fifth group, tests of endurance in rowing, swimming, skating, skiing, or bicycling. The badge has been awarded since 1907 and nearly one hundred thousand young men and women have won the right to wear it. Certain special sports have adopted the idea of having their own special badge; for instance, skiing, which badge was started in 1916 and which has also been won by about one hundred thousand people. The immense work which is at the back of these tests in skiing can be understood, when one thinks that the tests, according to the official reports, cover a distance of more than forty times around the world and a time of more than 1,600,000 hours.

Speaking about the badges instituted for the promotion of sport, I may mention the interesting fact that the swimmers have their own examinations and degrees, instituted as early as 1796 by Professor Jöns Svanberg in Uppsala. There are two degrees: the *candidat* and the *magister*. The former is crowned by a wreath of willow leaves and the latter a wreath of oak leaves. Every year several hundred boys and girls graduate in connection with great celebrations.

Another popular sport is cross country



RACING ON RIDDARFJÄRDEN, STOCKHOLM

running with a map. This cross country race is run on foot in summer or on skis in winter. The course of the race is kept secret. Immediately before the competition begins, maps are dealt out, on which are shown certain control stations, and the runners must, with the help of the map and a compass, try to find these control stations and then go on to the goal. Several thousand young men take part in these competitions yearly.

Finally, you must remember that in our countries the population is not dense. Sweden, for instance, has an area of 173,000 square miles—about the size of California—and a population of six million people. This makes 34 inhabitants per square mile as compared with 470 for Great Britain, 186 for France, and 34 for the United States of America. Thus there is plenty of room to take walks in the woods and the fields. Walking is popular and in most cities public rambles or hikes

are organized, often through the newspapers.

I have in this paper spoken only of physical recreations. I may mention, however, that in Sweden we are trying also to give the young people mental recreation. The members of the athletic clubs have their club rooms where they can meet in simple fashion. Here they may practise music, play chess, or study. Very often lectures of various kinds are given. The Swedish National Gymnastic and Sporting Association has also taken the initiative to cooperate with the cultural organizations in our country, in order to promote better understanding between mental and physical recreation.

I have spoken principally of the conditions in Sweden, but they are almost the same in Norway and Denmark. As you have heard, recreation is well cared for in our countries. This does not prevent the need of further development, however. As

I pointed out in the beginning of my lecture, the present industrialized and standardized life is dangerous to the physical condition of a nation, and great attention should constantly be given to

recreation. In order to have recreation one must have playgrounds as well as good organization of sports and play. Every effort to reach this goal will be hailed with joy by all friends of humanity.



CANOEING IN ÅLVSBORG

*Illustrations by Courtesy of the
Swedish Tourist Association*

CURRENT EVENTS



U · S · A ·

¶ Former President Calvin Coolidge died suddenly on January 5, at his home in Northampton, Massachusetts. Immediately after being informed of the passing of Mr. Coolidge, President Hoover issued a proclamation to the people of the United States in which he extolled the character of the man who preceded him in the Presidential office, and in whose cabinet he had served as Secretary of Commerce. "His name," declared the President, "has become in his own lifetime a synonym for sagacity and wisdom; his temperateness in speech, and his orderly deliberation in action bespoke the profound sense of responsibility which guided his conduct of the public business." Mr. Coolidge was in the sixty-first year of his age when he died. He was the thirtieth President of the United States. Interment was in Plymouth, Vermont, where six generations of Coolidges lie buried. The funeral ceremonies were attended by President and Mrs. Hoover, members of both houses of Congress, and many others high in the official life of the country. ¶ President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt takes office on March 4 with the United States treasury showing a deficit of \$1,159,286,502 as of the first half of the fiscal year 1932-33. In the six months starting July 1 and ending December 31, the government collected from all sources \$1,022,885,840 and spent \$2,-182,172,342. Internal revenues brought in \$387,360,027, compared with \$270,-571,381 for the first half of the previous fiscal year, but the income tax fell from \$615,324,342 to \$343,227,856. In addition to the big drop in the income tax, the government received approximately \$60,000,000 less from customs duties than a year ago. ¶ On December 20, the Presi-

dent-elect rejected President Hoover's proposal for a debt cooperation, based on a plan for a joint attack on the world depression by a commission appointed by the outgoing and incoming administrations to deal with Europe on both debts and disarmament. Mr. Roosevelt made it clear that he preferred to deal with the situation in his own way after taking office. It was alleged that foreign governments would be disinclined to consider negotiations while a change in the administration impended. ¶ It was reported from Washington on December 29 that the Democratic leaders in the Senate and House were planning to ask Congress for a blanket economy law that would furnish the new President with full power to reorganize, consolidate, or abolish such government agencies as he considered unessential. Should this move succeed it would automatically nullify President Hoover's plan for the reorganization of the government agencies. ¶ Under the bill passed by Congress, over the President's veto, ten years must elapse before the Filipinos can receive actual independence. Once the act is in effect, it would authorize the Philippine Legislature to provide for the election of delegates to a constitutional convention, to meet in Manila within a year after the enactment of the act for drafting a constitution for the commonwealth of the Philippine Islands. The act provides further that the new government is to assume all the obligations of the present government, and that public schools, conducted primarily in English, shall be maintained. ¶ From Manila the chairman of the Philippine Civic Union, Vincente Sotto, cabled President Hoover that a boycott of American goods would follow if he signed the independence bill in its present form. The message said that Manuel Quezon, president of the Philippine Senate, and Gen-

eral Emilio Aguinaldo were both opposed to the bill, and it charged that the measure limiting tariff exempt exports of Philippine sugar during the ten year period to 50,000 tons of refined and 800,000 tons of raw sugar was the work of interests associated with Cuban sugar plantations. ¶ On January 2, the Senate Judiciary Committee referred the Collier beer bill to a subcommittee. While this advance in the legislative action on the bill was being made, the National Board of Strategy of the dry organizations, which functioned actively before and during the Presidential campaign, ended its work. Dr. Edwin C. Dinwiddie, executive secretary of the Board of Strategy, announced that a reorganization of the dry forces was under consideration. The future of the Allied Forces for Prohibition, of which Dr. Daniel A. Poling has been chairman, is still being debated by the dry leaders. The subcommittee to which the Collier beer bill has been referred is headed by Senator John J. Blaine of Wisconsin. The other members are Senators William E. Borah, Felix Hebert, C. C. Dill, and Thomas J. Walsh. Senators Walsh and Borah are drys. ¶ The House Agricultural Committee has drafted a bill which is considered to be the second of the major measures that President-elect Roosevelt wishes to have enacted during the present session. The original plan of using the tariff duty as a basis of reckoning the allowance to be added to the price of that share of farm commodities sold on the domestic market has been abandoned in favor of the pre-war parity system. The new farm-relief program utilizes the principle of control of individual production, with a bonus only to those who join in the plan. Secretary of Agriculture Hyde has advanced an alternate program which has the reduction of acreage as its principal aim. A fund of from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 would be created with which the Government would lease lands now producing surplus crops and remove

them from cultivation. ¶ An outstanding event in the musical and general entertainment affairs of 1932 was the opening of the completed part of the Rockefeller Center in New York City containing the Radio City Music Hall and the Roxy RKO Motion Picture Theater, on the evenings of December 27 and 28 respectively.



NORWAY

¶ At a Cabinet meeting in the middle of December it was decided to bring a bill before the Storting regarding the imposition of a new tax, which, according to the *Norges Handels & Sjöfartstidende*, will be a tax on the turnover of retailers for the purpose of strengthening the budget for the current fiscal year. It is estimated that the budget will show a deficit of about 35,000,000 kroner, of which about 3,000,000 kroner is caused by increased interest and instalments on foreign loans resulting from a further depreciation of the currency subsequent to the adoption of the budget. The customs receipts in particular record a marked deficit, namely, of about 22,000,000 kroner over and above the substantial deficit which had already been taken into account. Further, it is estimated that the State Railways will show a deficit of 4,800,000 kroner in addition to the deficit of 2,500,000 figuring in the budget, and that the income tax, the beer tax, the Telegraph Service, etc., will show a deficit of about 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 kroner together. The new sales tax bill covers the current fiscal year only, and it is estimated that a tax along these lines would yield about 15,000,000 kroner for this period, based on figures provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics. ¶ During the fiscal year 1931-32 only 55 persons migrated from Norway to the United States; this figure constitutes 2.1 percent of the Norwegian quota, and signifies the lowest ebb of emigration from that country since the sloop *Restaurationen* in-

augurated emigration to the United States in 1825 by carrying 54 passengers from Stavanger to New York. The peak of Norwegian emigration to America was reached in the year 1882 when nearly fifty thousand emigrants left Norway. Hard times and the restrictive immigration policy of the United States have caused the drop. ¶ In the second week of December the Norwegian trawler *Borge-nes* of Haugesund left Harstad for the Arctic Ocean, the banks off Bear Island and Svalbard, with the scientific expedition of Thor Iversen and Kofoed on board. To the press Mr. Iversen stated that he expected to be away for three months, and that it was the first time that deep-sea research and fishery investigations of this nature were to be carried out in these regions in winter. Special attention would be paid to the prevalence of fish and to the spawning conditions of cod on the banks in the Atlantic Ocean. Meteorological observations will also be taken. ¶ On December 15 there were 41,571 registered unemployed persons in Norway. At a recent Cabinet meeting the Ministry was given permission to apply a further sum of 1,000,000 kroner to counteract unemployment in the fiscal year 1932-33. The money will be taken from the sum of 3,000,000 kroner, which, in the budget, has been placed at the disposal of the Government as a special reserve for dealing with the crisis. ¶ The general meeting of the Norwegian Ship-owners' Association which was held in December adopted the following resolution: "Norway's merchant fleet is based chiefly on trade with foreign countries and is in keen competition with the ships of certain countries which enjoy subsidies—often very substantial—besides being favored in other ways. If a substantial part of Norway's fleet of merchant ships is to be kept in commission on foreign countries, conditions must be such that our ships are taxed in a reasonable manner, so that they are not crippled in com-

petition. A fixed reasonable rate, on which calculations could be based, should be established and the other public impositions and dues should be modified." ¶ Norway has petitioned the World Court at The Hague for a postponement of the dates originally set for the presentation of its case in the Greenland controversy. The Court has granted the postponement. The first presentation which had been scheduled for February 1 has been postponed to March 1; and the second and final presentation will take place on April 15 instead of March 15. ¶ Amaldus Nielsen, noted Norwegian landscape painter, died in Oslo December 14 in his ninety-fourth year. His fame is rooted in his fine pictures of Southern Norway. Born in the old coast town of Mandal, Amaldus Nielsen depicted the quiet beauty of the southern coast, its bays and inlets, its isles and snug harbors. One of his best known and beloved paintings is *Morning at Ny-Hellesund*. Participation in foreign exhibitions brought many medals to Amaldus Nielsen; he was knighted by King Haakon, and recently a monument was erected in his honor in Mandal, the town of his birth.



DENMARK

¶ After months of deliberation the principal political parties in Denmark arrived at an agreement by which it was expected that the home industries would be sufficiently protected against a flood of foreign goods without hampering the merchants who look abroad for certain articles considered essential for the carrying on of business in a normal manner. In the Rigsdag, the Government made a number of concessions acceptable to the Conservatives and members of the Left party, while the two Communists recently elected to the Folketing opposed the Social Democratic plans. Considerable discussion arose over the question of whether Foreign Minister Munch should be em-

powered to determine the class of goods to be subject to the new exchange regulations, and Minister of Commerce Hauge declared that such was not the intention of the Government. ¶ The new Folketing contains a number of names quite unknown except to their immediate political circles. The retirement from the Stauning Cabinet of Lauritz Rasmussen, the Minister of Defense, brought the President of the Folketing, H. P. Hansen, into the Premier's family circle. H. Rasmussen is one of the leading Social Democrats and has been a member of the present Stauning régime since 1929. He was also a member of the Stauning Cabinet of seven years ago. The new President of the Folketing is Gerhard Nielsen. The two Communists, Aksel Larsen and Arne-Munch-Petersen, were elected respectively in Jutland and Copenhagen. ¶ Negotiations continued with England regarding the best means for carrying on reciprocal trade, and a delegation of British coal operators and exporters visited the capital with a view to recapturing the Danish market which to a great extent has been supplied with coal from elsewhere. In the delegation were a number of British mine owners, including Evan Williams, the chairman of the delegation. Mr. Williams stated in an interview that Denmark's coal requirements even during the existing industrial depression gave employment to 10,000 British miners and that this number would be greatly increased with the return of better business. ¶ Regarding the importation of Danish bacon, butter, and eggs into England, Foreign Minister Munch in an address in the Folketing declared that the Ottawa Imperial Conference was not favorable to Denmark since it erected a tariff wall around the British isles except to Dominion products, but that it was to be hoped that mutually satisfactory arrangements would be arrived at. At the same time, Minister Munch insisted that trade relations with Germany,

France, Holland, Switzerland, and other countries should not be lost sight of. It was noted in Copenhagen that the leading London newspapers, including the *Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, and *Morning Post*, were in favor of according to Denmark the best possible conditions for exporting to England such farm products as the English buying public have come to look upon as superior in quality and reasonable in price. ¶ On December 2, Premier Stauning called a meeting at which he told the members of the press the Government's plan for relieving the unemployment situation. The question of having work take the place of the present dole, according to the Premier, was now being considered seriously in order to minimize the drain on the public treasury. It was proposed to appoint a commission which shall investigate the possibility of cultivating heretofore unproductive sections of the country, such as the heaths, and new road construction would also be included in the program. Premier Stauning said that it might be possible to loan money to such municipalities as were able to put men to work. A reduction in working hours of those already employed might be necessary in order to help out the unemployment situation, he added. ¶ At a meeting of the Society of Sciences, Professor Niels Bohr told of a new important work that had occupied him for a considerable time. It had reference to the possibility of measuring the electromagnetic power currents and their limitations. Professor Bohr stated that his investigations had been conducted in collaboration with his assistant, the young Belgian scientist, Professor L. Rosenfeld. The question of time and space is considered to have been brought within a clearer concept to the lay mind by this recent discovery of the Danish Nobel Prize winner. ¶ The Björnson Centennial was observed in Copenhagen by a number of the theaters which presented plays by the famous Norwegian, and his relations to

Danish literary and cultural life were dwelt upon at various gatherings in the capital where Björnson was so familiar a figure. At the Royal Theater, Johannes Poulsen and Anna Reumert had leading parts in Björnson's *Geography and Love*.



SWEDEN

¶ Despite the depression the Swedish people celebrated Christmas in the usual way.

The first event was the traditional Santa Lucia festival, on December 13. In Stockholm this rite was combined with extra illumination in the shops for the Christmas trade. The Santa Lucia bride is chosen as in an American beauty contest by popular vote under the auspices of a morning daily, *Stockholms-Tidningen*. Escorted by carol singers—the so-called "star boys"—she rides through the city streets at night as the final fillip to the shopping campaign. The winner of the 1932 Lucia contest was Miss Diana Roberts, nineteen years old and a blonde with dark eyes. The Christmas business in Stockholm, Göteborg, and other cities was good and hotels and restaurants did a thriving trade. The weather was cold and clear. More than eight thousand Christmas packages were sent on Swedish ships from Gothenburg to Swedish-Americans in the United States. ¶ The confusion caused by the present crisis, which has hit the international centers of music very hard, may prepare the way for a new musical culture, although we cannot at present see clearly the future development. This is the opinion of Professor Olallo Morales, secretary of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music. In a speech he deplored the unemployment among the musicians abroad, and the general lowering of the musical standard caused by the world depression which, however, so far has not affected the musical life of Sweden seriously. He stated that he had observed a tendency

in modern music toward greater simplicity and harmony and toward the classical and pre-classical forms. The young composers seem to regard the former musical revolutionists with respectful awe. The young ones, he said, now have the task of building up new musical works of art, linking the spirit of the present age with the music of the past. To counteract the unemployment among musicians Professor Morales offered an interesting suggestion. He urged the organization of ambulating orchestras as a kind of unemployment work. These orchestras should be sent to play in communities in parts of the country where there is a lack of good orchestral music. ¶ Ernst Rolf, internationally celebrated Swedish singer, actor, and theatrical manager, whose annual *Rolf's Revue* always was one of the most popular shows in Stockholm died suddenly after a brief illness on December 28. He was forty-one years old. ¶ Dr. Erik Wettergren, for many years director of the Royal Dramatic Theater in Stockholm, Sweden's national stage, resigned together with his fellow directors as a protest against the criticism voiced against the management of the theater by the government auditors. ¶ The nobility in Sweden is dying out at the rate of three and one-half names per year, an historical study of the institution by B. M. von Willebrand reveals. Of the three thousand families introduced at the House of Nobles in Stockholm since 1625, when the institution was founded by King Gustavus Adolphus, hardly a fifth are today represented by male members. In absolute number, however, the Swedish nobles hold their own fairly well. Thus in 1895 there were 14,581 members of the nobility, and in 1930 14,889. About 40 per cent of these live in the capital and 1,622 have been lost by emigration. Thus there are now in Sweden 6,057 genuine noblemen and 7,211 noblewomen. No new members have been

created since 1902, when Sven Hedin, the explorer, was given the rank as a special favor. ¶ For the elimination of grade crossings Sweden plans to spend 12,000,000 kronor, the greatest part of which will come from the automobile tax. ¶ The Swedish government in 1931 obtained a total income of 121,000,000 kronor from the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquor, according to an official report from the Liquor Control Board. The per capita consumption of alcoholic beverages during the same year was 5.48 litres against 7.92 litres in 1913, the year immediately before the introduction of the present liquor restriction system, popularly called the Bratt System after its originator, Dr. Ivan Bratt. This system since its introduction has resulted in a reduction of the per capita consumption by nearly 31 per cent. At the same time the number of cases of drunkenness in the police courts has dropped 58 per cent since 1913. ¶ Preparations are made by three Swedish cities to celebrate anniversaries in 1933. Thus the city of Jönköping, the home of the Swedish match, will observe its six hundred and fiftieth birthday. The city of Västervik, also in the province of Småland and like Jönköping identified with the manufacture of matches, will be five hundred years old, while the city of Mariestad, in the province of Västergötland, will celebrate its three hundred and fiftieth anniversary. ¶ A cache of silver coins and jewelry from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was found in an earthenware jug by a farmer, A. Andersson, who was plowing his field near Hälsingborg. The coins, of Danish origin, will be placed in the Historical Academy, in Stockholm. ¶ A national inventory of the antiquities contained in Sweden's two thousand five hundred churches is almost completed after fifteen years of work. Students of Swedish art history have in this way gained valuable experience and training. Through this work hundreds of thou-

sands of ancient art objects such as wooden statues, baptismal fonts, chalices, paintings, chasubles, etc., have been registered and in many cases saved from destruction. The rectors of the various parishes are now held responsible for the preservation and care of the objects, and the bishops, as well as the Custodian of Antiquities of the Realm must inspect the church property and the manner in which it is looked after. All objects are listed at the office of the Custodian, Professor Sigurd Curman, who has personally organized and led the work. ¶ Sweden has more than 23,000,000 hectares of forest bearing land, or about 56,833,000 acres, it was brought out in a government tree census recently completed after seven years. ¶ Sharp reductions in the military expenses of Sweden are forecast for the coming national budget. In the preparation for next year's activities the army and navy and aviation service were told they must bring down their appropriation requests for the next year by about 20,000,000 kronor. This was done and it is probable that the final estimates submitted to the Riksdag will contain corresponding cuts. Seven years ago the Swedish army was reduced by about one-third, many old-time regiments being merged or dissolved. Now there is no proposal to abolish entire units or to disarm for the sake of disarming, but to reduce costs by shortening the period of military training, eliminating certain war manoeuvres, and reducing the number of conscripts called in for service. In this way it is proposed to bring down the army budget from 72,500,000 kronor to 62,000,000 kronor. Similarly the navy's budget is likely to be cut from 39,000,000 kronor to 32,000,000 kronor and aviation from 9,000,000 kronor to 8,000,000 kronor. In the navy the economies will be effected chiefly by laying up certain ships, among them the cruiser, *Fylgia*, which has been used for winter cruises to distant ports.

NORTHERN LIGHTS

A New Norwegian Orchestral Work Played in New York

Issay Dobrowen, one of the foreign guest conductors of New York's Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, has conducted in Oslo for several seasons and become interested in newer Norwegian music. In his series of concerts here he presented a work by one of the young Norwegian school of composers, Ludwig Irgens Jensen. The composition, called *Passacaglia*, was received by the audience with warm applause. It was introduced to America by the San Francisco Symphony under Mr. Dobrowen's leadership in November 1931, and was repeated in San Francisco this winter.

Swedish Talking Pictures in New York

Several Swedish talking pictures, brought to America by the Scandinavian Talking Picture Company, were played to capacity audiences at some of New York's motion picture theaters last year. This current season, *Värmlänningarn*, based on F. A. Dahlgren's perennially popular play, has been shown at the Fifth Avenue Playhouse, and this charming idyl, with generous measures of folk dances and folk songs, quaint costumes and vistas of Sweden's picturesque countryside, has proved justly popular. It is said to be the largest film that has been made in Sweden, requiring a company of more than 1,500 players.

The Lajla Film

Lajla, one of the finest films produced in Norway, which was shown extensively to American audiences last year, is having another successful season this year. The film tells the story of a Norwegian baby girl who is adopted by the Lapps in northern Norway. Much beautiful scenery is pictured, as well as the native customs and costumes of the Lapps with their large herds of reindeer.

Many of the recent showings have been benefit performances for the relief work sponsored by the Norwegian American Olympic Committee.

The National Museum in Copenhagen Buys Georg J. Lober's Sculpture

The National Museum in Copenhagen has acquired a group of portrait medallions of well known Americans executed by Georg J. Lober, the Danish-American sculptor. These medallions were earlier exhibited in the Salon International de la Medaille in Paris. The artist, recently elected a member of the National Academy of Design, is head of the department of sculpture at the Grand Central School of Art in New York.

Dania Celebrates Its Seventieth Anniversary

Dania in Chicago, the oldest Danish society in America, celebrated its seventieth anniversary last November. Eminent Danes, not only in Chicago, but in cities east and west, are on the roster of its members.

In its early years the society kept in close touch with the older Scandinavian Society, organized in New York in 1844. Together they collected funds for war sufferers in Denmark in 1864, and in France in 1871. Dania placed a wreath on Lincoln's bier when the funeral cortège rested in Chicago on its way to Springfield, and through the years her members have shown their public spirit as occasions have arisen.

Two important organizations within the society have been the glee club and a rifle corps, both founded in 1870. The club house erected on Kedzie Boulevard in 1912 has since been a center for Danish hospitality.

Old records and journals of the society are now yielding many interesting items for a history which is about to be published.

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Associates: All who are in sympathy with the aims of the Foundation are invited to become Associates. Regular Associates, paying \$3.00 annually, receive the REVIEW. Sustaining Associates, paying \$10.00 annually, receive the REVIEW and CLASSICS. Life Associates, paying \$200.00 once for all, receive all publications.

The Foundation Offices at 116 East 64th Street

When this issue of the REVIEW reaches our Associates, the Foundation will have removed to its own building at 116 East 64th Street, New York City, to which address all communications should now be directed. With the Schofield Library installed in a more dignified setting and an entire house at its disposal, the Foundation will have room for small meetings, lectures, and exhibitions. While the new house is not large, it should become a center for Scandinavian cultural activities in New York. The library will be open to visitors, and students and others seeking information will be welcomed. To our own Associates especially we extend a cordial invitation to visit the new quarters.

The Björnson Centennial

The American delegates to the Björnson Centennial in Oslo were Mr. N. Grevstad, editor of *Skandinaven* in Chicago, and Hanna Astrup Larsen, editor of THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW. At the festive gathering in the assembly hall of the University on Björnson's birthday, December 8, the oration on behalf of the American delegation was made by Mr. Grevstad. The assembly was preceded by a ceremony at the grave, where wreaths

were placed by Norwegian and foreign delegates. That for the American representatives was laid by Miss Larsen.

The delegates were guests at a series of brilliant social occasions, beginning December 3 with a luncheon at the home of the publisher, Mr. W. Nygaard, chairman of the committee on arrangements for the centennial. Suppers were given by the Societies of Authors and Artists, by the city of Oslo, and by Björnson's publishers, the Gyldendal Company; the festivities closed with an informal reception by the Norwegian Government.

Nordmanns-Forbundet

On the day following the Björnson celebration, December 9, Nordmanns-Forbundet gave a pleasant luncheon at the Hotel Continental for the American guests, Mr. and Mrs. N. Grevstad and Miss Larsen. The hosts were the Rev. N. B. Thvedt, vice-president of Nordmanns-Forbundet; Mrs. Betzy Kjelsberg, member of the board of directors, and Mr. Arne Kildal, general secretary.

Fellows of the Foundation

Mr. Åke Lundberg, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who has been studying at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, sailed for home on

December 14, accompanied by Mrs. Lundberg.

Mr. Sture Svensson, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who has been enrolled for the past two years in the student banking course at the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company in Chicago, sailed on January 4.

A Former Fellow

Poul Glindemann, Fellow of the Foundation from Denmark at the National City Bank, New York, from 1924 to 1926, has recently been elected president of the Employees Association of the Copenhagen Handelsbank and vice-president of the Union of Danish Bank Associations.

THE REVIEW AND ITS CONTRIBUTORS



Ricard Paulli is thoroughly familiar with the older culture of the Danish capital and vicinity. He has often contributed to the REVIEW. By profession he is a librarian, and holds a position in the Royal Library. . . . **Bertel Gripenberg**, a native of Finland writing in Swedish, is one of the distinguished poets of the literature common to both countries. He lives in Borgå, the quiet town which enshrines the memory of the Finnish national bard, Runeberg, but his work has a modernistic tendency very different from the limpid calm of the older poet. . . . In this number we bring the second of **Johan H. Langgaard's** notes on the masterpieces in the National Gallery at Oslo. . . . **Lee M. Hollander**, Professor in the University of Texas, is an Old Norse scholar and has, among other things, translated *The Poetic Edda*. . . . **Stig Wesslén** is a Swedish writer who has been hunting with a camera in the far North and has made a close study of bird life. The pho-

tographs by the author have been taken especially for this article. . . . **Ted Olson** writes us from Laramie, Wyoming, that he is of Norwegian descent, and his poem, "Portrait of a People," is the result of an extended sojourn in Norway. We found it a modern and original expression of that love of country which has inspired so many Norwegian poets. . . . **J. Sigfrid Edström** visited Los Angeles last summer as chairman of the Swedish Committee for the Olympic Games. In spite of his great responsibilities as president of the Swedish General Electric Company and his many other public activities, Mr. Edström has found time to be for many years one of the leaders in Swedish athletics, and no one is more intimately acquainted with the subject on which he speaks. His address was put at our disposal by the National Recreation Association with headquarters in New York.

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HISTORY

The Purchase of the Danish West Indies,
by Charles Callan Tansill. *Johns Hopkins Press.* 1932.

An international courtship, the Danish-American negotiations culminating in the purchase of the Virgin Islands by the United States in 1917, is the story of the Albert Shaw Lectures on Diplomatic History for 1931, given by Charles Callan Tansill, professor of American history at the American University in Washington. A half-century of diplomacy, intrigue, scandal, and success provides a theme marked by an essential unity and an enriching color, giving it a character and identity quite apart from the ordinary course of American diplomatic history. To those who are interested in the relations of the United States with Scandinavian countries, in Uncle Sam's Caribbean policy, or in the extension of the application of the Monroe Doctrine, Professor Tansill's work recommends itself.

One might describe *The Purchase of the Danish West Indies* by referring to it as a text-book in diplomatic procedure; for the author traces the course of the negotiations

from 1865 to 1917, both legal and extra-legal in minute detail, drawing his evidence from state papers and private manuscripts. Altogether, his work has been thorough and accurate, an excellent case-study in diplomacy.

Professor Tansill has made some definite contributions to the knowledge of history. He has shown that the defeat of the treaty of 1867 in the United States Senate was due not so much to congressional hostility to the Johnson administration as to the lapse of American interest in foreign expansion. His narration of events concerning the defeat of the treaty of 1902 in Denmark indicates that the failure to secure ratification was the result of a combination of factors—chiefly national pride and internal politics. But, doubtless, the most important contribution of the book is to be found in the proof of German innocence regarding the failure of the treaty of 1902. He dispels the bogey of "perfidious Allemagne."

The book is not without its defects. It is too long and detailed; most of its many quotations could have been paraphrased or summarized to advantage. The treatment of the Christmas episode is inconclusive, while the chapter dealing with the termination of the negotiations in 1916-17 does not meet the same standard of completeness as the other sections. However, the deficiencies of the work are minor; and, taken as a whole, it is by far the most complete and authoritative treatment of this unique episode of American diplomatic history yet published.

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TRADE NOTES

NORWEGIAN SILVER FOX SITUATION SATISFACTORY

French buyers of Norwegian silver fox skins have stimulated the market and encouraged the farm owners to raise only the finest quality of animals. Prices in the Sörland and Aalesund districts range from between 200 and 240 kroner per skin. A number of the owners of fox farms are sending their skins direct to the auctions abroad. The French buyers have been especially active in the Hønefoss district.

DENMARK HAD AN EXCEPTIONALLY FINE SUGAR BEET HARVEST

The season's sugar beet harvest in Denmark proved not only much above that of the previous year, but the quality of the beets was exceptionally fine. In Jutland there was an increase of 50,000 tons over the 1931 harvest. In case the entire production were utilized in the manufacture of sugar, Denmark would find it unnecessary to import any of this article. In the province of Skåne, Sweden, the beet harvest likewise was larger than usual, and shows that Scandinavia as a whole is looking to sugar beets as an agricultural product of great promise.

ELECTRIFICATION OF SWEDISH STATE RAILWAYS BRINGS LARGE ORDER

The electrification of the State Railways of Sweden on a large scale has resulted in orders being



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placed with the Swedish General Electric Company, estimated at between 10,000,000 and 15,000,000 kronor. After the completion of the Stockholm-Malmö section, work will start on the northern stretch of the main line between Stockholm and Ängelholm, and it is here that equipment ordered from the General Electric Company is to be needed. The *Swedish American Trade Journal* states that the total contracts to be placed by the railways will amount to 50,000,000 kronor. Of this sum Swedish iron works are expected to receive 3,500,000 kronor and cable works about 3,000,000 kronor.

ICELAND FINDING NEW MARKETS FOR DRIED COD

Iceland has found the export of dried cod to Italy and Spain so remunerative that other markets are being sought along the Mediterranean, with the result that Greece is the newest customer in that part of the world. A recent shipment of 900 tons of dried cod went from Reykjavik on the newly purchased Norwegian ship *Kong Inge* which has been renamed *Hekla*.

MERGE OF TWO OF SWEDEN'S LEADING ENGINEERING FIRMS

The J. & C. G. Bolinders Mechanical Company and the Munktells Mechanical Company recently merged with a combined capital of 12,500,000 kronor. The factories will be concentrated in the town of Eskilstuna, in central Sweden, a stronghold of the Swedish iron and steel industry.